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Impatient Warsaw chafes at the Berlin bit



What changes have taken place in Polish foreign policy? None, Warsaw invariably replies, answer at the ready. The change of government at the end of last year had nothing to do with foreign affairs.

Indeed, shortly before his dismissal Wladyslaw Gomulka scored a major foreign policy success in concluding with Bonn an agreement confirming the Oder-Neisse line as Poland's western frontier, something long felt desirable.

The Treaty was only signed four months ago yet already there are aspects to it that do not quite tally with the Polish foreign policy picture before the New Year.

Josef Cyrankiewicz, at that time Polish Premier, intimated to Chancellor Brandt at the *signing of the Treaty* that Poland would prefer it not to be ratified prior to ratification of the Treaty between Bonn and Moscow.

Officially there have been no changes in this line of argument and public pronouncements by prominent Polish politicians still toe the Cyrankiewicz line.

Behind the scenes, though, other views are voiced. The diametrical opposite of the official view on the future of the Warsaw Treaty is advocated in no uncertain terms.

The men who have changed their minds are not, by any manner of means, unimportant figures. It would be wrong to accuse them of anti-Soviet sentiment, though. The motives behind their criticism are rather different.

Once the Treaty was signed Bonn incorporated it in the Eastern policy package, where it is now firmly tied to the Moscow Treaty, which in its turn is not to be ratified until a satisfactory solution to the Berlin question has been arrived at.

What is more, the Treaty with Prague is first to be signed and a settlement with the GDR first negotiated before the Eastern package is to be submitted to the Bundestag in one job lot.

This procedure to be followed prior to ratification of the Warsaw Treaty is regarded sceptically in certain circles in the Polish capital.

The Bonn-Warsaw Treaty, they maintain, resurrecting an argument that is anything but novel, is mainly a moral matter that ought not necessarily to be linked with other political problems of more topical importance.

The provision of guarantees of safe frontiers has long been a Polish foreign policy aim and for most Poles frontier guarantees represent an independent issue of national importance.

And this is only one side of the argument. The other is even more likely to encourage demands for prior ratification of the Treaty with Poland.

Certain circles in Poland have come to realise that the tie-up with the Moscow Treaty and a Berlin settlement will mean some considerable time is likely to pass before the Treaty with Poland comes into force. Above all they disapprove of ratification of the Warsaw Treaty being made dependent on a satisfactory Berlin settlement.

They feel that America and Russia view Berlin merely within the framework of overall international tension and detente and that the settlement decision will be reached, if and when it is reached, by the Great Powers alone.

Little store is set by Poland's influence on Moscow and the impotence of the smaller partner in the face of the hegemonial power comes through loud and clear.

So it is that certain circles in Poland propose to manoeuvre themselves out of the dead end they feel they have reached with the Warsaw Treaty and to do so without delay.

Viewed in this light two recent Polish moves make more sense. The one was the semi-official announcement via Polish diplomats in Stockholm that Warsaw is now interested in prompt ratification, the other the leak in *Zycie Warszawy*, the Warsaw daily, about the Soviet paper on Berlin, some of the details of which appeared quite promising.

It can be assumed without a shadow of doubt that the leak was not published without Moscow's knowledge, not to say collusion. And as the extracts published sounded fairly reasonable Warsaw will have been glad to have been of assistance.

Nothing could be more in line with the intentions of certain circles in Warsaw than to make out a settlement on Berlin to be within closer reach than is really the case.

The longer the preliminaries take, the more impatient and irritated the Poles will grow. Warsaw has, when all is said and done, attached certain hopes to the Treaty, specifically hopes of a financial nature, and certain circles in Warsaw reckon they are being done out of their due.

Disappointment at not having made as much progress or gained as many advantages from the Treaty with Bonn as had been hoped may well gain increasing support.

Heinz Verfürth

(Handelsblatt, 19 April 1971)

IN THIS ISSUE

The GERMAN TRIBUNE Quarterly Supplement is included with this issue.



Music in Bonn

Joan Kennedy appeared in Bonn with the Boston Symphony Orchestra as the narrator in a performance of Prokofieff's *Peter and the Wolf*. She was joined the following day by her husband, Senator Edward Kennedy. They were entertained in Bonn by Foreign Minister Walter Scheel and his wife, Mildred. (Photo: dpa)

France and Algeria end special relationship

Following twenty months of fruitless negotiations France and Algeria have brought to an end the preferential treatment they have accorded each other since the Evian agreement of 1962.

In future they are to entertain normal relations with one another and base their decisions from one instance to the next solely on specific interests and financial considerations.

It is no longer mainly a matter of the Sahara petroleum. The increase in price and the 51-per-cent take-over of French firms without appropriate recompense have merely been the immediate cause of a breakdown that could be and was foreseen in advance but not credited by President Pompidou until the last moment.

At M. Pompidou's personal behest Hervé Alphand, a career diplomat, had been instructed to prolong negotiations with Algiers as long as possible, bargaining over technical details and financial procedures.

These tactics were wrong. The petroleum talks have now reached final deadlock. President Pompidou needs new supplies, President Boumedienne new customers.

At the same time Paris is doing its best to discredit Algeria in the eyes of the World Bank and Washington. Algeria is in the process of negotiating an important natural gas agreement with the United States.

Technological and cultural cooperation between the two countries is to continue for the time being but mutual trust has gone by the board and although the 500,000 Algerians working in France are remaining there on sufferance Algeria has been given to understand that this agreement too cannot be renewed.

On assuming office M. Pompidou talked in terms of a new plan for the Mediterranean in which Algeria was to occupy a key role. Nothing has since been heard of the idea and the severance of the special ties between the two countries puts and end to it.

France's withdrawal from Algeria creates a new situation in the western Mediterranean. The two superpowers have gained in importance.

The crucial reasons for French strategy and tactics in recent years were not only petroleum and natural gas but also, not to say mainly, Algeria's strategic position on the southern flank of Western Europe and as a focal point in the Mediterranean.

The growing number of Soviet experts and technicians in Algeria is an indication that France's former colony is going its own way. The natural gas talks with the United States show that President Boumedienne by no means intends to commit himself irrevocably to one side or the other.

A new leaf has been turned over – not only in relations between Paris and Algiers but in the entire western Mediterranean.

Robert Hertz

(Hannoversche Presse, 17 April 1971)

■ ARMED FORCES

Unna captains affair puts the cat among the brass hat canaries

DIE ZEIT

Defence Minister Helmut Schmidt has gagged the thirty Army captains of the Seventh Armoured Division in Unna who published a statement deploring certain aspects of the armed forces.

But they still found enough spokesmen who turned the affair into the latest Bundeswehr crisis within a week of the statement's publication.

Party politics dominate the affair both in the Bundestag and the press. The controversy may eclipse the main issue about which the officers rightly complain and in which they could be given help, at least in the long term.

Opposition to the government both within and without the Bundestag views the Unna memorandum less as a demand to create better training conditions for the troops than a welcome opportunity to discredit the army's political leadership in the eyes of the public and in the eyes of members of the armed forces themselves.

Friedrich Zimmermann, the Christian Social Union chairman of the Defence Committee, spread great unease recently in the Bundestag debate on security.

He was the first person to link the general survey of the armed forces that has become known as the Schnez Paper with the captains' statement and state that their motives and demands were identical.

Zimmermann said that as the "new political leadership had rejected the survey wholesale for party political reasons" the same questions were now being raised at company level by the officer corps.

The 1969 study set out to answer the question of how an army condemned to a lack of history could be given some binding sense of tradition, how the Fatherland could be given the necessary interpretation as a moral value and how obstinate publications media could be persuaded to explain to the population the defence role of the armed forces as the traditionalists in the service would like.

Despite Friedrich Zimmermann and these traditionalists, it is to be hoped that the army captains did not intend to give any such impression in their memorandum.

It is also to be hoped that the untenable attacks against the military and political leadership (the falsification of the balance of power between East and West, the serfdom of the military leadership and political abuse of the power of civilian command) only resulted from their excessive anger concerning all the "adversities and inadequacies" caused by the shortage of personnel and the restricted space for manoeuvres which plague their day-to-day service.

The points made by a group of lieutenants in 1970 were also raised once again during the debate but it was not asked how representative they were of the mass of officers beneath the rank of captain.

The Opposition spokesman acted as a mouthpiece of previous controversy in the press, stating that the lieutenants' statement on freedom of opinion in the armed forces had been praised by the Minister.

Now, the Opposition spokesman added, the refusal of discussions on the captains' memorandum, its rejection and the divisional commander's order to treat it as no more than an internal matter are the consequences of this freedom of opinion.

Unfortunately Helmut Schmidt has not explained the basic difference between the points made by the lieutenants and the captains at Unna that demands different treatment.

The lieutenants stated concisely what they understood by an officer's career and how they would like the leadership to think of it. They looked at their profession rationally as a "hard job". The definition may meet with disapproval but it was only a contribution toward a general discussion on the issue.

The captains on the other hand linked their complaints concerning the service with serious political attacks against the Bundeswehr leadership. By disregarding military discipline, they tried to force the Minister to negotiate with them.

They will get their wish. But they would be advised to examine their statement beforehand and decide which points are defensible and which indefensible.

Are the aims of integrating the modern soldier into society and raising his fighting potential to the best possible level really mutually exclusive, with the result that one can only be achieved at the cost of the other?

The duty of a soldier to defend his country with his life no longer gives him any professional privilege "sui generis" in times of peace. But he would have the privilege in a future war of dying with a weapon in his hand while civilians would meet their death unarmed.

There is no other honest means for military commanders in the West to educate their troops than by appealing to the point of view that it is worth living in our State and social order, that it is, however, challenged by hostile p[...] and can only be preserved if troop[...] prepared to fight to defend it.

In view of the scepticism of [...] younger generation this is certai[n] difficult and at times apparently [...] possible task. It is much more dif[...] than any form of ideological mi[...] education practised in the past and [...] practised today in the enemy camp.

It is easier to fight against inferio[...] than for freedom.

Hans Schu[...]

(DIE ZEIT, 2 Apri[l ...])

Bundeswehr C-in-[...] calls for more scien[...] in military trainin[g]

Speaking to industrialists in S[...] Ulrich de Maizière, command[...] chief of the armed forces, has said [...] the Bundeswehr must provide its doc[...] of leadership with a scientific ba[...] that working conditions can be [...] more humane and a higher standa[...] service ensured.

The Bundeswehr must use scien[...] the same matter-of-fact way as in[...] does. A scientifically based traini[ng ...] Maizière said, aided the efficacy [...] forces and helped a soldier wh[o ...] signed on for a number of years to [...] good post in civvy street.

The Education Commission head[...] Professor Ellwein believes that the [...] forces could learn and practise [...] functions that would be of use later [...] professional life.

De Maizière said he believed th[...] many functions within the armed [...] could not be summed up by the one [...] "soldiering".

Fighter pilots, tank commanders, [...] boat captains, radar operators, engin[...] and heads of supply depots would [...] judge their performance according [...] varying criteria.

These varying criteria must be ex[...]ed to the public to make them [...] aware of the true situation and in [...] recruitment.

(Handelsblatt, 13 April [...])

Conscientious objectors give Bonn a major headache

For many years conscientious objectors existed in the Federal Republic without being any problem. Their numbers remained below the forecasted figures and giving them alternative work presented no difficulties.

Numbers have rocketed in recent years since political objections have been recognised as reasonable grounds for refusal of service along with religious and humanitarian objections. But there was little sign of unease at first.

Bonn now considers any delay to be dangerous. During the latest armed forces debate in the Bundestag spokesmen representing all parties attacked the younger generation's growing disinclination to do armed service.

A further increase in the number of conscientious objectors is to be checked with the help of the Third Bill for the Amendment of the Act Governing the Civilian Replacement Service that is now before the Bundestag.

The main aim of the amendment is to create more opportunities for calling up conscientious objectors into the replacement service. At present only one in four are called upon to do this work.

Some conscientious objectors doubtlessly include this shortage of places into their calculations when refusing military service. There is still a good chance of not being called up into the replacement service, at any rate a far better chance than of not being conscripted into the armed forces.

But there can be no accurate proof that the mass of conscientious objectors inwardly reject the obligations placed upon them by the State and society, as Chancellor Brandt put it.

All statements opposing the planned amendment do not question the obligation to do alternative work in the replacement service but criticise the work that has to be done.

The present discussion was mainly sparked off by the government's intention of allowing conscientious objectors to work in the technical sphere or in public administration as long as there is a need for extra staff that cannot be filled in any other way.

The technical sphere and public administration include the post office, the railways, the fire brigade and ambulance services.

Conscientious objectors suspect that this will be a new sort of labour service especially as they have learnt from the union of post office workers that the positions in question are mainly those that no one else wants because of poor pay or unfavourable hours.

They see here a break in the link between peace service and the reasons for their decision not to serve in the armed forces. They demand a political function based on Basic Law – the preservation of peace. They believe that they can carry out this function best and most sensibly by working to eliminate the causes of political and social discord.

The conscientious objectors give a whole list of ways they could help in this respect. They could work in kindergartens and day nurseries, help with school work in poor areas (a very high proportion of conscientious objectors hold the Abitur school-leaving certificate), or take care of foreign workers, the handicapped or prisoners in need of rehabilitation.

But this sociological sphere is to remain closed to them although they have, as Hans Iven, the man responsible for their work, says, done excellent work in hospitals and nursing homes.

A statement by the hospitals' association shows that not all the opportunities offered have yet been exhausted. The present number of 2,600 places for conscientious objectors in hospitals could easily be increased to over five thousand.

Does Bonn fear that extending the range of work done by the replacement service could make it more attractive than the armed services even if the chance of not being called upon to do the alternative work is considerably reduced?

The Bundestag is not expected to make many changes to the government Bill. The hearing on this subject arranged by the labour and social services committee took place in camera for some [...] reason but it probably did little [...] than go through the motions.

The fact that the Bill was given its fi[rst] reading in the Bundestag without a[...] discussion indicates that the parties [...] to get the Bill on the statute book wit[h as] little fuss as possible.

But conscientious objectors are mak[ing] a fuss. They have demanded Hans Iv[en's] resignation on wanted-style posters [...] they also have the support of the Chu[rches] and trades unions.

They still feel that they are be[ing] discriminated against as second [...] citizens even though the new law [en]visages some improvements in other [...] – they are to be given the chance [of] promotion, a Federal bureau and o[...] will devote themselves to their affai[rs ...] there will also be introductory [...] courses.

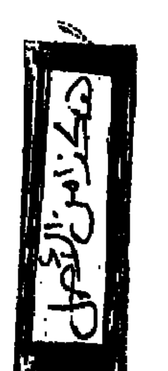
Bonn's desire for greater justice i[n the] armed forces can be seen in the latest [...] But it has not been admitted, nor le[...] learnt from the fact, that the you[nger] generation has not been made adequ[ately] aware of the need for defence [and] therefore the need for armed forces.

If this had been done, the numb[er of] those conscientious objectors [...] political motives would certainly [not be] so high.

The politicians who condemn [...] schools as a breeding-ground of [con]scientious objection and threaten [...] introduction of work squads are t[aking] the easy way out. The best way to [win] over young people is to convince them [...]

Reiner Dederich[s]

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 13 April [...])



REVIEW

Invalidating Munich Agreement presents international problems

The two days of exploratory talks in Prague at the end of March between State Secretary Paul Frank of the Foreign Office and Czech Deputy Foreign Minister Klusak marked the start of the attempt to solve the last big problem in relations between this country and her neighbours.

In the West all border issues with France, Belgium and the Netherlands were settled a long time ago. Agreement was reached on the Oder-Neisse question in Warsaw last December. The only problem remaining is the Sudetenland question.

At the beginning of the new Ostpolitik this seemed to be one of the easiest problems to solve. It may now prove to be the most difficult of all.

Czechoslovakia and the Federal Republic would be able to agree on a treaty renouncing the use of the threat of force within two days. But declaring the 1938 Munich Agreement to be invalid from the very beginning raises an almost insoluble problem.

Czechoslovakia's claim that the Agreement signed in Munich on 29 September 1938 transferring the Sudetenland from Czechoslovakia to the German Reich came into being because of threats and compulsion is doubtlessly correct.

We know today that Hitler intended to smash Czechoslovakia shortly after the Anschluss with Austria. Konrad Henlein's Sudenten German Party allowed itself to be used by Hitler to spread National Socialist policy.

During the course of the spring and the summer of *1938 Henlein* and his party systematically created a situation where war or peace in Europe seemed to depend on Prague.

At the same time Hitler was able to count on the Western states' sympathy for his demand to include all Germans in one State, as long as they lived in countries directly bordering on the German Reich.

The illusion was still rife that he would be satisfied as soon as he had achieved his aim. Step by step he gained the support of Italy, France and Great Britain where Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain was pursuing a consistent policy of appeasement. In the end Czechoslovakia had to bow to the pressure of the major European powers. Only the Soviet Union stood aloof.

For Czechoslovakia, the Munich Agreement was the beginning of the end. After the cessation of the Sudetenland she was mercilessly exposed to German pressure. On the home front, differences between Czechs and Slovaks increased.

Six months later, in March 1939, Hitler managed to bring about the end of Czechoslovakia. While Slovakia became an autonomous State and a satellite of the Reich, German troops occupied the Czech parts of the country that were declared a protectorate of the Reich.

This further course of history shows why the Munich Agreement has become a trauma for Czechoslovakia.

During the Second World War the exiled Czech government in London under Eduard Benes did all it could to force an annulment of the Munich Agreement by the Western powers that had been party to it.

The Czechs viewed this as the only way to ensure the resurrection of a Czechoslovak State. They did not only want to win back the Sudetenland but also wanted to restore the unity of Czechs and Slovaks that had been broken as a result of the Munich Agreement.

DER TAGESSPIEGEL

That is why Czechoslovakia today demands that the Munich Agreement must be declared invalid from the moment it was signed. The Agreement is to disappear from history books so that there can be no doubt about the integrity of the State of Czechoslovakia.

In the case of an annulment of the Munich Agreement ex tunc, as the international lawyers say, the Czech government would probably be prepared to propose pragmatic solutions for all resultant problems.

The Sudeten Germans' frequent cry that they would be in an impossible situation if there was an ex tunc annulment as they would suddenly become Czech citizens once again is probably incorrect. Problems of nationality and property could be solved if both sides show they want a solution.

Czechoslovakia indeed does not want to claim the Sudeten Germans as its citizens. The fear that Sudeten Germans could be arrested as army deserters when visiting Czechoslovakia and forced to appear before a court is probably unfounded. At any rate this worry could be eliminated by a corresponding treaty.

The Federal Republic is therefore prepared in principle to declare the Munich Agreement invalid from a point lying well back in the past.

International lawyers have dealt with all aspects of this problem in recent months and conclude that the right date for its invalidity would be the day of the German invasion of Czechoslovakia in March 1939. It was then that Hitler obviously violated the terms of the Agreement.

If it annulled the Agreement from this date, the Federal Republic would find itself in harmony with the Western powers who declared it invalid during the Second World War, though not ex tunc.

There would be difficult legal problems in this case too and solutions are possible. The Sudeten Germans would not agree to a solution of this type. They still want to retain the chance to return to their former home in the future.

But contrary to a lot of supposition it is not the demands of the Sudeten Germans that is preventing the government from fulfilling Czech demands for ex tunc annulment.

It is the general principles of international law that present an insurmountable obstacle. There is no doubt that the Munich Agreement was legally recognised by all States involved even though it was a result of pressure.

If Czech demands were met, international law would be subject to the greatest insecurity. A move of this type would mean that any State wishing to withdraw from an international treaty could claim that it had stood under pressure at the time of signing.

Few international treaties are signed without pressure of some type. In recent times for instance many States signed the Non-Proliferation Treaty because they were under a certain pressure. Does this mean that they will be able to revoke this treaty at a later date?

As the Federal Republic, unlike Hitler's Reich, takes its international obligations seriously it cannot agree to annulling the Munich Treaty ex tunc. All political parties are agreed on this point.

The Federal Republic long ago satisfied Czechoslovakia's claims by declaring that it would not use the Munich Agreement as a basis for territorial demands. By annulling the Agreement from March 1939, it would be taking an important step forward. But beyond this point its way is blocked.

Wolfgang Wagner

(DER TAGESSPIEGEL, 7 April 1971)

Bismarck's constitution drawn up 100 years ago

A century ago the constitution of 16 April 1871 defined the German Empire as "an eternal association of German princes and Free cities with the King of Prussia as the hereditary German Kaiser to protect German territory, the law and the well-being of the German people".

Arch-conservatives such as Moritz von Blankenburg, the nephew of War Minister Roon, saw in Bismarck's unholy alliance with national liberalism as manifested in this constitution the way toward a republic and the ruin of Church and school.

The Catholic Centre Party and the left-wing liberal Progress Party demanded unsuccessfully the inclusion of guarantees of civic liberty in the constitution.

Social Democrat Wilhelm Liebknecht considered the whole thing to be an undemocratic princely insurance company and his colleague August Bebel described the battle for basic rights as sensible only when violence was looked upon as the ultima ratio.

This controversial work born of Bismarck's practical political mind had a remarkable threefold character that was quite in keeping with the times.

The first element was extreme federalism. The Prussian King and Kaiser was not the monarch of the Empire, the ruler of a nation, but only the supreme representative, a president-style figure, among his noble allies, as the Constitution puts it.

The Kaiser represented the Empire abroad, led all armies as supreme commander, was head of the Imperial Navy, decided questions of war or peace, concluded treaties, appointed the Chancellor, the only minister in the Empire, and proclaimed the laws passed by Reichstag and Bundesrat, the Federal Council.

The Bundesrat functioned as a control organ of the other kings and prices. The Chancellor headed this body in his capacity as Prime Minister of Prussia.

The Bundesrat had to approve the laws passed by the Reichstag and could dissolve this body with the Kaiser's approval and order new elections within sixty days.

If need be, the Bundesrat was also able to inflict the *Reichsexecution* over states that had not carried out their obligations to the Empire. But in the difficult negotiations in 1870 Bavaria had made it a condition of her union with the North German Confederation of 1867 that this would never be used against her.

The Kingdom of Saxony also retained special rights concerning her army and Bavaria and Württemberg were allowed special privileges concerning their armies, postal services and railways.

Without these concessions Bismarck, the creator of this loose federation, would have been unable to push through the formation of the Empire in 1870 and 1871.

The second element was of a decidedly conservative nature. Bismarck wanted to do all he could to retain Prussian superiority in the federation.

The third element had a democratic, unifying character. The Constitution of the Empire standardised law, currency, banking, postal services and railways and united the various army contingents that the Reichstag had to finance. All these were steps on the path toward a nation state.

The nation that was neither existant nor in the process of becoming aware of its identity first came together in March 1871 when the Reichstag was elected.

All men over 25 were allowed general, equal and direct suffrage, a dangerous innovation in the view of the member states.

Bismarck was unwilling to concede a salary and expenses for Reichstag deputies as he feared that this could lead to the formation of a class of career politicians and a parliamentary bureaucracy.

The Reichstag passed laws for all spheres of domestic, financial, economic and social policy and had full control over the budget.

The Chancellor was appointed by the Kaiser and responsible to him. He had to obtain a majority in the Reichstag, if necessary through coalitions, in order to have his budget accepted.

This was a semi-parliamentarianism which then gained greater and greater importance in constitutional practice. Theoretically a vote of no confidence was possible. This was first carried out against Bethmann Hollweg in 1913 though without any real results.

An autocratic Kaiser such as Wilhelm II may have been unwilling to admit it, but in practice the head of state was unable to rule without the support of the Reichstag in this constitutional system – unless martial law was proclaimed – and the elected body could not act without or against the monarch.

Bismarck's constitution had constructive progressive features. General suffrage forced the member states to consider how long they could or would adhere to antiquated electoral systems based on taxes, property and education.

The Federal Council or Bundesrat gradually lost its influence while the parliament gained in importance especially as the liberal and left-wing parties gained a majority in the last elections held in 1912, thus forcing the conservative ruling classes in the Reichstag into Opposition.

The last government of the Imperial period – that of Chancellor Prince Max of Baden in 1918 – already governed according to the ideas of a liberal, left-wing coalition, the Reichstag "Inter-Party Committee" consisting of a number of parliamentarians including Majority Social Democrats.

This, like the parliamentary reform of the constitution, came to late. But when the founders of the Republican constitution, came to late. But when the founders of the Republican constitution set to work in 1919 they suddenly discovered many positive features in the much-maligned Bismarckian constitution.

(DIE WELT, 10 April 1971)

■ PUBLISHING

Simplicissimus – the satirical magazinie to top them all

Albert Langen of Cologne was a wiry, impulsive man who, as the youngest of five brothers and sisters, had inherited one million Marks and did not know quite what to do with the money.

In or around 1893 he turned up in Paris. Eager for fame and pleasant company, he joined the Bohemians on the Montmartre – this type of life flourished at the height of the *belle époque* – painted and wrote to prove himself worthy of entry into their society but mainly became known and loved for his generosity.

He lost a lot of money in the process until a well-meaning French friend advised him that, if his desire to see his name printed on a book's title page was so strong, he would do better to stop writing his own books and print those of people who were able to write more profoundly and which would sell.

Young Albert saw the logic of this advice, founded the Albert Langen publishing concern and changed his company. In Paris the gods mixed with the mortals. Langen got to know such well-known people as Björnstjerne Björnson, later to be awarded the Nobel Prize. Indeed he knew Björnson so well that he was allowed to marry his youngest daughter Dagny.

He dined with Knut Hamsun, Henrik Ibsen, Georg Brandes, Emile Zola, Anatole France and Marcel Prévost and won the German publishing rights for their books.

Langen went to work with enthusiasm. He published book after book until he realised that it was difficult for a German publishing house based in Paris to deal with its customers.

He therefore returned to Germany, going first to Leipzig. After growing tired of being cold-shouldered by the local competition he moved to Munich where he got along more easily.

Langen had a real sense of presentation and came up with the idea of providing books with colourful illustrated dust covers to replace the largely neutral ones that had previously been used.

This scheme proved a great success and though everybody soon copied the idea it was Langen who first developed it to a fine art.

A designer by the name of Thomas Theodor Heine proved to be particularly talented and imaginative in this work. He was six years older than Langen, was born in Leipzig, had learnt to draw at the Düsseldorf academy and finally chose to live in Munich.

An idea was crystallising in the minds of the two men, though they did not know what. It took on its final shape when Langen heard that Otto Erich Hartleben and Maximilian Harden intended to start a satirical periodical. Harden had already picked a title – *Simplicissimus*.

Langen set to work. He offered Hartleben the post of editor-in-chief but this was rejected. Harden too declined on the grounds that he had enough to do with his *Zukunft*.

Langen himself took over the control of the periodical and announced: "Forcefulness, naturalness and true freshness will be more to Simplicissimus' liking than pathological fear or a painfully nervous art. Where a poet or artist criticises the hypocritical attitude toward grievances and social evils, Simplicissimus will applaud with all the more joy if the artist does not thereby forget his art!"

Langen had formed a temporary staff for the periodical by using a lot of money and even more persuasion. The first issue appeared on 4 April 1896, a Saturday. Langen recklessly printed half a million copies in the naive belief that sellers would rush through the streets shouting their wares as he had seen then do in Paris. But this was illegal in Germany. The magazine had to be used as wrapping paper. The publishing house estimated that little more than five hundred copies were sold. Langen did not lose heart. The periodical had been born. It should now cling to life, flourish and acquire the special differentiating character that it still lacked. The price of ten pfennigs was too low and scarcely covered expenses. Langen, a rich man only on the surface, approached his moneyed relations. He stood his ground, worked even harder and increased the teamwork amongst his staff.



A cartoon by E. Schilling in Simplicissimus, 1924, lampooning Lenin and Karl Marx (From 'Facsimile Querschnitt durch den Simplicissimus' Scherz Verlag)

His best man was and remained Thomas Theodor Heine who created the symbol of the red bulldog. Heine had once been a light cartoonist in popular flysheets, cultivating harmless jests about fat pugs and forgotten umbrellas.

But now he suddenly revealed himself to be a first-rate satirist and critic whose cartoons and articles were extremely biting and powerful.

He did not try to create a monopoly for himself on the periodical but brought in other highly-talented cartoonists, though indulging in different styles, moulded them into the team.

These included Eduard Thöny, whose subtle detail has not been equalled before or since, Bruno Paul with his outlines, Freiherr von Reznicek with gallant charm and Wilhelm Schulz, the incurable Romantic.

But it was Albert Langen himself who attracted the greatest master of the cartoonist's trade. While visiting his Norwegian home in 1902, he came upon young Olaf Gulbransson and did not allow him to escape his control until he had turned into a Norwegian Bavarian.

The imagination and exemplary diligence of Gulbransson's cartoon works made *Simplicissimus* unbeatable.

Artur Zick

(Kieler Nachrichten, 31 March 1971)

PROFILES

Surrealism founder Max Ernst is eighty

Defoliated, charred forests, petrified in ghostly silence; ghost cities; rotting landscapes peopled with daemonic creatures, chimera and hurricanes; bizarre birds called Hornebom or Loplop hanging motionless in leaden air and above all this a yellowish faded circle of sun – this is the universe that Max Ernst has created in his pictures.

It is a world behind the outward appearance of things, dreamy, surrealistic, ghostly, dominated by primeval fears and nightmares arising from the unconscious.

For the painter, now 80 years old, the confession of the Surrealists still applies. This was formulated by the theoretician of the movement André Breton as "belief in a higher reality of certain associated forms, in the omnipotence of the dream and the play of thoughts."

Behind the colour poetry and imaginative scurrilousness of his work there is the presage of the ineffable, the incalculable – there are attempts to move on to plains in which the most contradictory elements arise and life and death are no longer separated from each other.

In a biography by John Russell the story of Max Ernst is called the story of European fantasy. And in effect Ernst from the Rhineland let himself be led by his infinite imaginative "sister, the muse confusion, the hundred-headed woman" on excursions into the land of fabulous animals, mythical plants and awe-inspiring wonder like no other artist.

For the artistic wizard of the twentieth century there was never any lack of inspiration, ideas and visions whose brutal penetration is only made tolerable by concealed humour and detached irony.

For instance in 1934 he described the natural surrounding of the human being in a fatefully prophetic article: "The day will come when a satyr, which had previously been nothing but a skirt-chaser, will have to decide only to drink in soft drink bars and walk along asphalt streets with Sunday afternoon strollers. . .he will be geometrical, conscientious, dutiful, grammatical, judicial, pastoral, clerical, contructivist and republican . . ."

Max Ernst (Photo: dpa)

The dominating tendencies in the artistic development of Max Ernst are the passionate urge to experiment and the efforts to make his works avoid becoming dogmatic or systematic.

The self-taught man who had originally studied psychiatry and philosophy at Bonn University quickly joined the Dada movement in Germany.

With the battle cry "Dilettantes of the world unite" he took part in the explosion of rage and joy in the revolt of nonsense.

Along with other young artists who had survived the horror and senselessness of the Great War he protested as "minimax dadamay" against senseless destruction and conventions devoid of sense.

In his own words, Max Ernst "died in 1914; was resurrected in 1918 as a human being who wanted to become a wizard and discover the myth of his age."

In 1920 Max Ernst left Germany in a hurry and moved to Paris where he took part in the founding of Surrealism.

For him there began an epoch in which he sought and discovered mechanical processes by which he could realise his artistic intentions.

He discovered collage, frottage, a rubbing process and later the droplet technique which consists of dripping thin colours from a perforated container on to a canvas.

The Second World War forced this "decadent artist" to take refuge in the United States. Among the up-and-coming young artists of the New World he was accepted with great enthusiasm, but critics and the public were decidedly against this "talented modern spirital adventurer", as one art expert described him.

Since 1950 Max Ernst has been living in France and in the last twenty years recognition and honours have been heaped at his door. The great Surrealist has reacted calmly to his success. He is well aware that signs of tiredness and new inspiration always alternate with each other.

For him his ability to continue to "make breaches in the walls of stupidity" is important.

For this he requires opposition rather than applause, since "security paralyses the artist".

Peter Dvorak

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 31 March 1971)

Publisher Piper celebrates 60th birthday

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

Munich publisher Klaus Piper was born in 1911, the son of the publisher Reinhard Piper. On 27 March this year he celebrated his sixtieth birthday.

He began work in his father's firm Verlag Reinhard Piper & Co. (founded 1904) in 1932 after completing his *Abitur* school-leaving examination and a two-year apprenticeship in the publishing business.

From his youth Klaus Piper's interests were always of an intellectual nature. His father had a passionate interest in the artistic side of producing books, but Klaus Piper from the start saw books as a medium of communication and passing on understanding.

This aspect of his character has been reflected in the publishing programme of the company in the past 25 years.

Alongside the literary giants, Stefan Andres, Ingeborg Bachmann, Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa or more modern authors such as Ernst Herhaus and Angelika Mechtel it was Karl Jaspers above all who gave the company its character.

Following the first Jaspers work to be published by Piper (*Vom europäischen Geist*, 1947) almost all the books of this famous philosopher appeared up to his death under Piper's imprint.

Thanks to Klaus Piper's declared intention as a publisher to contribute to the quality of life by science it has been possible up till the present day to place the literary and spiritual programmes of the publishing house on an equal footing.

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 26 March 1971)

Armand Gatti's *Rosa Kollektiv* premiere in Kassel fails to combine drama and agitation successfully

Photographs, large and small, of Kaiser Wilhelm, Hindenburg, Ludendorff, Ebert and Scheidemann had been stuck indiscriminately at the entrance with those of Mehring, Kautsky, Karl Liebknecht, Nixon and Che Guevara.

A photo montage surrounded a stage that had been constructed to look like a television studio. Pictures of Rosa Luxemburg could also be seen.

Decoration and ornamental detail. That was the subject of the play. But it wanted the audience to realise that this did not just apply to the theatre. The audience was meant to apply its findings to the outside world as well.

Reality, as history, is the dynamic force of enterprise. The aim of the production is to activate it for the present – another despairing attempt by Armand Gatti at Kassel to pursue new ways and find new opportunities for the political theatre.

The fact that the new play in the city's Hessisches Staatstheater is called *Rosa Kollektiv* reveals its historical pretence and its activating method.

The production claims to deal with Rosa Luxemburg. But the intention does not succeed and cannot succeed. The collective nature makes this impossible, though it must be admitted that this is intentional.

Seventeen people are in search of a play. They search in vain for a television play about Rosa Luxemburg. They heatedly discuss their proposals in a setting that is made up to look like the studio for a television discussion.

These seventeen figures are of varying political shades, ranging from Rosa's contemporaries to those who use her name today as opponents or supporters – students from Strasbourg, Black Panthers, the Major who murdered her and today's television presenter.

They all try to carry out their task – though without success. It is the playwright's plan to take dialectic advantage from their failure – he wishes to rouse the public to action.

Armand Gatti only suggests this indirectly. He presents the audience with the impossibility of finding a play whose truth content would be binding on all those involved. He suggests that things must be manipulated, both on the stage as off it.

Gatti tries to express this more radically and more complicatedly with each successive play. His *Birth* two years ago only pointed out that the reality of Guatemala was deformed into an image on stage. The symbolic and informative value of these images can however provide the incentive for action.

But *Rosa Kollektiv* on the other hand is completely ineffective. Its form is a negation of all types, its method is dissection.

Decoration and ornamental detail is everything here. Wherever you look, whatever you listen to, there is nothing but dead, unusable material.

Everything concerned with the television play that does not take place is branded as fiction, reaching a climax in the statement that "Rosa no longer corresponds to people today and they therefore reject her".

Everyone comes to the same conclusion, whatever their position on the political spectrum. Confusion breaks out in the television studio.

There is terror and counter-terror, National Democrat brawlers and demonstrators, caricatures, slogans inciting

Continued on page 7

A scene from the Kassel production of Gatti's *Rosa Kollektiv* (Photo: Kasper Seidel)

Continued from page 6

murder, theatre, pop art and indications of worse conditions here and there.

The theatre becomes an incessant mechanism to dissolve reality, corresponding to the principle of rejecting the theatre as sterile fiction. Both Gatti and the Kassel theatre seem to have overlooked the fact that obscurity and unintelligibility can in their turn have a paralysing effect.

The production confuses the audience. Its intention of providing stimuli to thought that could be really effective evaporates. It complicates its theatrical effect by constantly breaking up its elements to the point of non-recognition. That also means that the information it intends to provide to act as a stimulus to action also approaches the point of non-recognition. The play degenerates into an intellectual exercise as it desperately tries to overcome its dramatic character.

The audience in Kassel was able to see a work that had overreached itself in the attempt to find a course somewhere between drama and agitation, a course that could guide the theatre from drama-tic reflexion to the seriousness of real action.

But this cannot be done gradually. It must be done at one jump. The team headed by producers Kai Braak and Günter Fischer and director Ulrich Brecht should have realised this.

At other times they always have to differentiate between theatre and reality and make the theatre understandable so that there can be a critical relationship with reality.

But that is lost in Gatti's *Rosa Kollektiv*.

Dietmar N. Schmidt

(DIE WELT, 6 April 1971)

Actress Brigitte Horney turns sixty

Of the three daughters of a rich, upper bourgeois home Brigitte Horney was the only one to feel herself attracted to the theatre. She succeeded in achieving her childhood dream – she became an actress and what is more a rare exception in her profession.

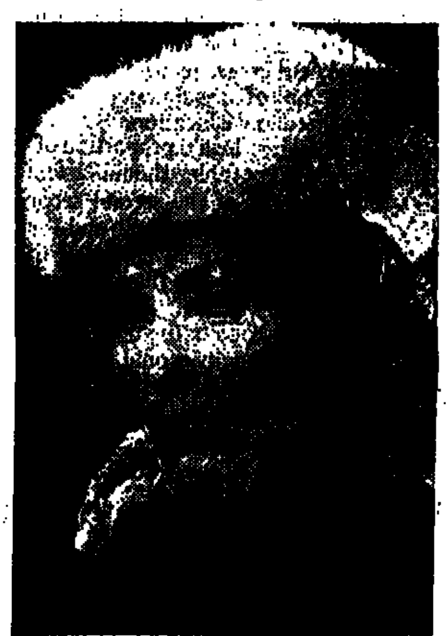
As a star without tinsel she is one of those great actresses who have created their own niche for themselves. She once said that the actress is far more tied to her own nature, her own character than the actor.

This recognition has been consistently applied throughout the career of this actress who celebrated her sixtieth birthday on 29 March.

She never let herself be pressganged into roles that did not suit her character and her capabilities. The characters she played almost always oozed feminine warmth with a degree of passion under a veil of acerbity, which she radiated in her day-to-day life.

The expressiveness of her dark, rather coarse voice and her clear face, which was beautiful although not in the classical sense, has an infectious charm and gives her acting those unmistakable qualities which impress the audience and hold their sympathy for the actress through the years.

Brigitte Horney grew up in surroundings where she was constantly in contact with well-known researchers and scientists, artists and literati, and this rubbed off on her. Her mother, Dr Karen Horney, was one of the most important psychotherapists of her day and later became head of an institute in New York that founded a new branch of Freudian analysis. The broadmindedness and the



Brigitte Horney (Photo: IP/Kniewel)

understanding of Brigitte Horney's parents made it possible for her to follow her artistic bent without any problems.

Biggy took drama training under the renowned Berlin actress and educationalist Ilka Grüning and later received a contract from the Würzburg Stadttheater.

When she won first prize in a competition for the promotion of up-and-coming young thespians the silver screen began to take an interest in her talent. Richard Siodmak gave the completely unknown actress the main role in his film *Abschied* after a successful audition.

Ufa directors were so enthralled by the young woman's acting that they offered her a tempting contract. Many screen roles followed. Brigitte Horney acted in *Liebe Tod und Teufel, Der grüne Domino, Verklungene Melodie, Befreite Hände, Das Mädchen von Fanö* and *Münchhausen*, among others.

After the War she was seen in *So lange du da bist, Der letzte Sommer* and *Nacht fiel über Gotenhafen*.

Brigitte Horney showed her talent at its best advantage at the Deutsches Theater, the Lessingtheater and the Berliner Volksbühne, and in front of the cameras in German and British studios.

Her successful career was broken off abruptly when she had to enter hospital for two and a half years with tuberculosis in the bone of a leg which had to be kept in plaster.

But even in this difficult period she lost none of her sense of humour, and her naturalness and courage – qualities that her friends had always admired in her.

Following the Second World War when she was fully recovered from her illness she acted in Zürich and Basle.

Nowadays Brigitte Horney, who has moved to the United States and married for a second time, only occasionally returns to the Federal Republic to show enraptured audiences glimpses of her unforgettable acting. She appears mostly in television plays.

Richard Reimar

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 29 March 1971)

■ EDUCATION

Government presents new educational reforms

BY STATE SECRETARY HILDEGARD HAMM-BRÜCHER

A nation's intellectual and cultural background is reflected in its views on education. The structure and content of an education system reveal what a society thinks of itself. Seen in this light, educational policy in the Federal Republic has become the yardstick by which to measure the credibility of our constitution, Basic Law, that was drawn up in 1949 in ready realisation of the need for a change for the better.

Wilhelm von Humboldt, the man behind the idea of the German university, created the ideal of a Classical education that was subsequently copied by many other nations.

It is his later imitators who must be given the rather dubious credit for having caused the structure and content of Humboldt's educational ideas to be preserved right up to the present day, despite all attacks and other events.

At the beginning of their protest movement the young academic generation summed up the situation disrespectfully though aptly by claiming that the mustiness of a thousand years lay beneath professorial gowns.

Goethe once said on behalf of the German people that politics was a loathsome ditty that the uninitiated should not be allowed to ponder over.

This idea of education has caused the splendour and misery of the German people, the full extent of which still remains unclear up to the present day.

It has led to the great scientific and intellectual achievements on the one hand and, on the other, the political ignorance that resulted in National Socialist perversion.

A small number of people had a monopoly on education. The vast majority of the population had to make do with an elementary education provided by a socially degraded teaching staff that taught them as much arithmetic, reading, writing and religion as was thought necessary for them to become hard-working, dutiful and obedient subjects.

As we know, this undemocratic education system became a tool of National Socialist ideology and upbringing as did all other branches of life.

After the total collapse of the Nazi regime we first experienced a period of self-criticism and pondered over the connection between the social order and the aims of our education system.

During these years many promising starts in the right direction were made but there was no purposeful new beginning. Schools and universities were not radically reformed and no educational priorities were set as life began to return to normal in our country.

When the education system was built up again the same structures were taken over. That meant that religion once again split primary school children and the school situation tended to worsen, especially outside towns and cities.

There was great public alarm at the beginning of the sixties, when comprehensive material was put forward to show what had been neglected by education policy in the Federal Republic. Statistics forecast an inevitable educational disaster in this country.

Demands for equality of opportunity and fair treatment for children of all social levels became the main driving force of an educational reform movement that has caused a real change of thought in the past six years despite deep-set conservative ideas on he subject of education and, recently, has led to corresponding action.

In its 1970 Education Report the government outlined the basic principles for the future expansion of the educational system.

The disadvantages facing children from uneducated families must be overcome in order to ensure equality of opportunity. This end will be served by elementary education which aims at helping the physical, intellectual, mental and social development of individual children of pre-school age.

The evening-out of opportunity and the help given to individual children will continue in later school life. The school system divided into elementary school, secondary modern and high school and originally based on class principles will be replaced by a graded school system with specialisation and streaming after a child's sixth year of schooling.

Furthermore the traditional differentiation between popular and academic education must be ended. Until the end of their compulsory period of schooling all children will enjoy a general education based on the same academical principles.

Schools must no longer act as a distribution centre for career opportunities, or not at this stage at least. There is already a fair amount of agreement today that a large number of experiments concerning comprehensive schooling will be carried out in the next few years.

What is more, I am certain that after the trial period comprehensive schooling will cease to be a bone of contention between the parties – in ten to fifteen years' time at the latest.

The next section of reforms in what is known as the Second Secondary Stage is equally as important:

The traditionally incompatible worlds of the apprentice, who is trained for a particular profession, and the high school pupil who is educated for further study are no longer as rigidly separated as was once the case.

Apprentices are obviously the poor relations of education policy in this country and need today, and will do in future, a general education and specialised career training. The widened field of fostering talent now recognises career training to be of equal value as the Classical high school education.

For this reason as high a proportion of a school year as possible should attend school to the end of the second secondary stage, or twelve years in all, and thus be in a position to take advantage of the opportunities offered by further education in the tertiary sphere.

A democratic school structure ensuring equality of opportunity would mean the end of the Humboldt-type university. The student protest movement in the Federal



Hildegard Hamm-Brücher
(Photo: Archiv/J. H. Darchinger)

Republic has its own specific and justified causes on top of the general worldwide reasons. Universities on their own are obviously incapable of reforming studies, teaching, science and the operation of learning.

University reform today is therefore initially no more than a determined attempt to exist in the war on two fronts against indefatigable conservative and radical beliefs and, while under fire from both sides, to build a new university system stone by stone. The first measures are:

– Legislation to introduce and pass university reform,
– Planning and rationalising the university construction programme,
– The democratic participation of all groups of members in self-administration,
– The reorganisation and support of university research and the fostering of a new academic generation.
– And a start to the reform of studies taking advantage of the opportunities offered by the technical media.

The fourth and final stage of a democratic education system has only attracted public attention in recent years – further education for adults will achieve unlimited importance if the principle of equality of opportunity is maintained.

It is already agreed unanimously today that "further organised learning", "contact studies", political education and general education for teachers, technicians, housewives and doctors are necessary if the education system is to keep up with the rapid changes in this field and the demands they make.

Finally, there is the question of whether all these ambitious plans and ideas can be put into practice.

Social reforms have rarely proved one hundred per cent successful. The Danish philosopher Soren Kierkegaard once said, "True reform always means making life more difficult for oneself and taking on an extra burden.".

This is a good description of the government's present efforts. Within the framework of the extremely limit[ed op]portunity it has, it is prepared[,] determined to introduce and pu[sh for]ward its proposed reforms along wi[th the] eleven Federal states.

The first steps have been taken [in] the past twelve months:

An agreement has been made b[y] the central government and the Federal state governments to form [a] committee that is to draw up by [the end of] this year the first overall educatio[n plan] containing the joint reform meas[ures to] be taken up to 1985.

This will be followed by an edu[cation] budget setting down the costs f[or the] reforms. We already know the probable costs for the expansi[on and] reform of the education system [are] extraordinarily high.

At present some 25,000 million [Marks] a year are spent on education and [this is] about four per cent of the gross n[ational] product. By 1985 the proportio[n will] have to double to eight per cent. [This] means that we should now be st[udying] the problems involved in financing [educa]tion.

During the same period that the [struc]tural changes in the school and uni[versity] system already described are carri[ed out] there will be other lasting reforms.

Teacher training will be reform[ed ...] experimental schools will provide [prac]tical experience and allow teachers [to get] accustomed to new teaching meth[ods,] learning and working processes and [be]havioural patterns.

At the same time new curricula [will] have to be drawn up and tested wi[th the] aim of defining learning aims more [...] and describing the individual le[arning] stages more accurately.

The main concern in the uni[versity] sphere is to link the measures fo[r the] planned accelerated and rationalis[ed ex]pansion and structural reform of [univer]sities with those for reforms of stu[dies and] studies.

Otherwise there would be some [...]cation in the younger generation [...]ticism that the State would be [...] with a technocratic reform. But [that is] not our intention.

Whatever the case, even if our [most] optimistic hopes materialise, we are [faced] with a difficult and probably crisis-[ridden] transition period of a least ten years [before] the proposed reforms are carried out.

(DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES SONNTAGSBLATT, 4 April [1971])

Cabinet approves post-graduate grants

A Bill just passed by the Cabinet plans "fair and lasting" financial support for post-graduates in the Federal Republic.

Under the proposed new law graduates would receive a two-year grant if they planned to go on to become a university teacher. Single post-graduates would receive 800 Marks a month while their married colleagues would get 1,000 Marks. An earlier version of the Bill proposed that the grants should be 100 Marks higher.

Klaus von Dohnanyi, State Secretary in the Education and Science Ministry, said that the Cabinet ruling would allow PhD candidates to devote themselves entirely to their academic work as their financial worries would be eliminated.

This year the central government plans to take over ninety per cent of the costs resulting from the proposed law. Central government participation will be cut to fifty per cent in future years.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 2 April 1971)

Educational refo[rm] means higher tax[es]

Free Democrat Hildegard H[amm-]Brücher, State Secretary to th[e Min]istry of Education and Science, has [said] that the overall education plan ca[n only] be carried out if expenditure on e[duca]tion is creased.

In an interview with Südwestfu[nk in] Baden-Baden, Hildegard Hamm-Br[ücher] said that the mollycoddled citizens [would] have to be provoked and told [that] educational reform could only be [carried] out by raising taxes.

The education plan costs more th[an can] be imagined at the moment, she sai[d, and] we must prepare the public for this.

Hildegard Hamm-Brücher ex[pects] severe controversy, even in govern[ment] circles, as it is not at all clear whe[ther] educational reform will be given prio[rity] in the programme of domestic reforms [which] has already been claimed.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 5 April 1971)

■ MEDICINE

Göttingen congress discusses physical growth

What factors influence growth? Can a strict difference still be made between town-dwellers and countryfolk? The latter half of a congress organised in Göttingen by the Association for Anthropology, and Human Genetics dealt with these issues.

Describing the work of anthropologists and human geneticists is something like taking individual results, beliefs and well-founded hypotheses and forming them into a whole that does not exist in reality.

It is not certain that the conclusions they arrive at from their findings and the forecasts they then base on their conclusions will in fact correspond to the actual state of affairs existing in the future.

Both sciences deal with facts that can suddenly change if outside influences change in a way that cannot be predicted today.

Not even the current information we have on the basic genetic structure of human life allows us to assume that these conditions will still be valid in a centry's time.

There have been so many thoroughgoing changes since the dawn of the industrial era that we cannot rule out the possibility of new forces influencing human life.

The changes in our living conditions are typified by the various laws governing physical growth. Professor Hans W. Jürgens, the Kiel anthropologist, dealt with these in his lecture to the congress.

During the first thirty years of the nineteenth century, the differing living conditions, especially where nutrition is concerned, were thought to be the main reasons for differences in physical growth between the various social classes. Explaining the difference by referring to educational standards for instance would have appeared absurd.

But classification of this type has now proved to be unacceptable. The change in thought was heralded by the startling observation made by a scientist in 1893 that a factory worker was better nourished than a smallholder in Baden and therefore grew taller.

After the First World War education came to the forefront as a previously unknown "sifting mechanism". But even the medical examinations of conscripts in 1968 and 1969 showed that there was a clear decrease in height from the upper to lower social levels.

These differences are gradually beginning to level off. Professor Jürgens believes that education too could soon lose its character as a social sieve with the result that we would have to look around for different criteria of what affects growth.

The Professor drew attention to a phenomenon that deserves consideration especially as little heed has been paid to it so far.

If, Jürgens asked, the still current over-estimation of a person's professional position declines still further, should we not then have to accept leisure-time activities as the main criterion affecting physical growth?

The standardisation of the educational system and the further extension of the welfare state made such a trend probable, the Professor added.

But attributing differences to regional factors is also losing more and more of its credibility. Differentiating between urban and rural population has already become problematic today.

The question arises as to who is a town-dweller. Is it the person living in the centre of the city, the inhabitants of rented flats in the suburbs or the people dwelling on the very outskirts of the town, who are not defined statistically as townsfolk?

Or is it the commuter who spends eight to ten hours a day in the city but lives or sleeps in country estates well away from busy urban life?

Findings here are often bizarre. Town-dwellers in the statistical sense and the inhabitants of pronounced rural communities have more similarities to one another in life expectancy, suicide rates, health and mortality than those members of the population who live in rural residential areas on the edge of cities.

These findings can also be extended to the individual Federal states. Because of the strong population movements within the Federal Republic former differences have been largely offset. Environmental influences no longer dominate as much as genetic factors in determining the socio-biological picture.

Sociological and anthropological aspects of this type have been supplemented by examinations of mistakes that Nature sometimes makes in controlling growth.

Dr R.A. Pfeiffer, the Münster human geneticist, stated that these included chromosome defects as well as an insufficient supply of the growth hormone. Intermarriage too can foster stunted growth.

The congress in showed that one of the greatest wonders of nature is the fact so many people are born without physical or mental defect.

Alfred Püllmann

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 1 April 1971)

Munich academy investigates dangers of office work

The Bavarian Academy of Labour and Social Medicine in Munich recently dealt with the many problems arising from office work.

A few staristics showed how important this subject is. In 1925 white-collar workers made up 25.2 per cent of the *total working population*. The proportion had risen to 41.3 per cent by 1966 and this figure is still on the increase.

That means that a considerable proportion of people in the Federal Republic work in an office. Office work means that most of these people work sitting down and confined by four walls.

The belief that there can be nothing more healthy than leisurely office work is now exploded. Labour medicine specialists argue that static work where the muscles are not used to any great extent is much less healthy than manual work where they are.

Dr Erich Hoffmann, a member of the Academy staff specialising in labour medicine, states: "While a good blood supply is ensured in work involving movement because of the use of the muscles, the blood vessels are pressed together by the internal pressure of muscle tissue in sedentary occupations."

This results in a decrease in the excretion of waste products in the muscular metabolism, causing muscles to tire more quickly and ache. It is little wonder that such states of exhaustion lead to the spinal column getting out of shape. Lumbago and sciatica can result. The neck muscles are particularly susceptible.

Dr Hoffmann states that there are a considerable number of cases of damage to the neck muscles that are primarily a result of the sitting position that the patient has to occupy during his working hours. Degeneration of the spine or vertebrae are only a secondary cause.

Lack of movement can, experts are convinced, lead to varicose veins, piles and chronic constipation. There is also no doubt concerning the psychosomatic link between a poor working atmosphere and the frequent occurrence of stomach and intestinal ulcers as well as bronchial asthma.

It is also striking that the number of days lost owing to sickness is significantly higher in concerns where the working atmosphere is disturbed.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 2 April 1971)

Ulm doctor explodes suicide fallacies

Dr Heinz Henseler, the Ulm psychotherapist who works at Ulm University Psychiatric Centre, has drawn up an alarmingly long list of prejudices and fallacies concerning suicide that are shared by laymen and specialists alike.

The statistics used up to now are the first target of Dr Henseler's attack. It is wrong to believe that more and more people were committing suicide, he said.

The absolute figure was indeed rising, he added, but compared with the population figures the number of suicides has remained constant since 1900 – every year nineteen to twenty people in every 100,000 commit suicide in this country.

The idea that a tendency to commit suicide can be inherited was also false, Dr Henseler said. Of the 31 pairs of twins where one of the two had committed suicide there was no case of the other taking his own life.

Dr Henseler also dismissed the frequently heard talk of "suicide weather". Recent investigations show that there is no connection between the frequency of suicide and the weather situation.

That is also true of the notorious *föhn*, a warm, southerly wind that affects South Germany. Neither the approaching *föhn* nor the wind itself has any influence on the number of suicides.

Even the sad autumn weather that innumerable novels describe as typical suicide weather is without significance as far as suicide figures are concerned.

Dr Henseler states that the suicide rate increases in March and not in the autumn and reaches its climax in the sunny summer month of June.

Mysterious cosmic influences can also be ruled out as a cause of suicide. There is no connection between suicide figures and the phases of the moon, sun-spots, magnetic storms or other occurrences in the universe.

Most ideas about the typical suicide case are equally false. It is not true for example that suicide is particularly common among the very rich and the very poor.

Instead, Dr Henseler blames the lack of social contacts for many cases of suicide and adds that social isolation is independent of income.

The belief that Catholics are less likely to commit suicide than Protestants does not stand up to close examination. Catholic countries such as Italy, Spain, Portugal and Ireland do admittedly have a very low suicide rate but in the equally Catholic countries of Austria and Hungary more people commit suicide than in Protestant Sweden.

Another widespread belief is that most people decide to commit suicide after taking stock of their situation. This form of suicide may be common among politicians, diplomats, officers and agents, Dr Henseler states, but in actual fact it is very rare.

"Of our 250 suicide patients only two considered suicide as a deliberate way out of a hopeless situation," he added.

At the end of his article, published in *Deutsches Ärzteblatt*, the medical journal, Dr Henseler listed a number of important rules to be adhered to when with people who are likely to commit suicide.

He emphasises that people must not believe that a person who speaks of suicide will not carry out what he says. It has been shown that some eighty per cent of people committing suicide announce their intention beforehand.

Dr Henseler does not believe in the view that the subject of suicide should not be brought in front of people in great despair in case this could suggest a way out to them.

"Anyone who is desperate will have already considered suicide," Dr Henseler says. "People who have not considered it will not be pushed to suicide by the very mention of the word. In both cases the patient is relieved that someone is concerned about him and understands his problem."

Sympathetic conversations are the best means of stopping a person from committing suicide, Dr Henseler confirms. With eighty per cent of his patients he has managed to take the sting out of their problems after talking to them with the result that not even drugs were necessary to brighten up their mood.

Ladislaus Kurthy/PAM

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 2 April 1971)

New skin bank requires more donors

People suffering from serious burns have an increased chance of survival now that the first "skin bank" in Central Europe has been opened in Oggersheim, Ludwigshafen, at the largest hospital in this country specialising in this kind of accident.

Dr Peter Zellner, the head of the burns department, explained that the skin bank would contain the tissue data of voluntary donors.

As the typical features of the donors' skin are listed in hospital files, a person suffering serious burns will quickly be able to receive skin that is as similar as possible to his own tissue.

Previously the hospital has only been able to use a donor's skin to cover burnt patches on the recipient's body for about a week. After this period it was always rejected.

Not that the skin of the donor is similar to that of the recipient, wounds can be covered for as long as four weeks and, in some cases, even longer.

So far the donor files only contain the names of fifteen men who have agreed to stand at the hospital's disposal in a case of emergency. The skin is taken from their thigh and re-forms after about a week in hospital without forming a scar.

The skin bank still requires more donors so that it will be able to operate on patients belonging to any of the 21 possible tissue groups.

The Ludwigshafen hospital admits patients with third degree burns from almost the whole of the Federal Republic. At present the skin donors still have to be rushed to the hospital when a case arrives.

But soon the hospital will be able to keep a supply of skin. It is hoped that the hospital will receive biological refrigeration equipment in about six months time, enabling it to store skin in liquid nitrogen at temperatures of minus 190 degrees.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 2 April 1971)

■ THE ECONOMY

Stagflation may hit us in 1972 - but all forecasts are unreliable

Everyone was mistaken, or almost everyone. Perhaps there are experts here and there who insist that they provided accurate forecasts for this year's economic developments but most are ready to admit that their forecasts for 1971 were wrong.

Last autumn there was a general belief that there would be clear signs of economic stagnation in April 1971. At the start of the year nearly all forecasts were pessimistic.

The predominant theme running through the statements of producers, economists, trade unionists and politicians was that it was only a question of whether there would be stagnation or recession in the course of the next twelve months.

Things have turned out quite differently. The first months of the new year have brought an economic growth rate that is scarcely down on that of the second half of 1970. There is full employment despite short-time working at a number of factories. There can be no talk of stagnation.

This unexpected development in the economic sphere shows once again that forecasts are more of an art than a science despite all the refined methods employed.

The 1971 Budget shows how quickly economic forecasts are followed by the reverse trend. When Alex Möller presented his draft Budget last July there was violent criticism about the proposed twelve per cent rise in expenditure. Attacks came from his own ranks as well as from the Opposition.

The Finance Minister thought himself perfectly justified when in the autumn it was commonly forecast that trade was about to slacken.

But now there is no call for an inflationary Budget. Alex Möller is forced by the economic situation to warn his colleagues not to spend too much.

The stagnation feared has not materialised. Industrial production is on average six per cent higher than a year ago. The pre-Easter retail trade is booming — turnovers are expected to be ten per cent higher than this time last year. Share values have increased by almost twenty per cent since the beginning of January.

Actually everyone could be satisfied but neither consumers nor producers feel confident.

In recent weeks there has been a lot of foolish talk of an industrial conspiracy against the governing Coalition of Social and Free Democrats.

It cannot be denied that never before in the history of the Federal Republic have relations between the producers, or at least the associations representing them, and the government been under such a strain as they are today.

But it would be oversimplifying the issue to claim that this was due purely to the obvious distrust felt by economic bosses for a government headed by Social Democrats. Ministers such as Karl Schiller and Alex Möller enjoy the confidence of large sections of the economy.

A whole series of wrong decisions was needed to produce the present friction. The most serious factor was probably the activity of Young Socialists and other extreme groups within the SPD, though there was more talk than action here.

But this aroused increasing doubts as to whether the Social Democrats would in the long run think of themselves as the defenders of a market economy based on competition and private property.

Along with this worry, which is more concerned with the future, came growing



unease about economic and financial policies.

For nine months Karl Schiller steered a zigzag course. Between the controversial upward revaluation of the Mark in October 1969 and the no less controversial decision about advance tax payments in July 1970 economic policy fluctuated between stop, go and wait and see.

As far as financial policy is concerned, there is probably no one today who can sort out all the innumerable announcements and denials about tax increases and tax cuts.

Everything Cabinet members and their party colleagues have been able to do to confuse all those concerned and make them uneasy has been done.

This game has obviously become popular and is being repeated again now that the memorandum of the special committee has been submitted. The Ministry of Finance is announcing alternative proposals which are followed by denials which are then interpreted.

The senselessness of claims that industry is trying to cause trouble for the Socialist-Liberal coalition by deliberately painting a dismal picture of the economic situation can be seen from the fact that the trades unions have been making more pessimistic statements in recent months than the Federal Industrial Association.

It was the unions and experts close to their viewpoint that first warned of a worsening of the situation and demanded new measures to curb the economy.

Karl Schiller himself, who as the Minister responsible should want a confident mood, does not know how to spread optimism. Even the unexpectedly good development in the first few weeks did not end his belief that 1971 would see more fears than hopes. The Economic Affairs Minister did what he once scorned Chancellor Ludwig Erhard for — he travelled through the country preaching common sense.

Admittedly, Schiller knows what he is talking about. The continuation of the boom must not be allowed to mislead people to think that the economic problems causing us concern yesterday have today disappeared.

The reverse is true. All factors leading to a pessimistic view of the economic situation three months ago are still having their effect. Then as today:

Prices are rising. The cost of living rose 4.3 per cent in February, compared with February 1970, a new record level;

Profits of many firms are sinking or stagnating at a low level. Brokers reckon that the large chemical firms for instance will achieve in the first months of 1971 "at best" the yield of the poor final quarter of 1970;

Firms are less willing to buy new equipment or spend money on rationalisation or on extending to full capacity. Otto Wolff von Amerongen has said that capital investment threatens to break down under the pressure of high wages. Statistics show that orders received by firms during the past six months have been on average lower than the current turnover.

So far we have only won time and not solved any problems. That is also the reason why the Bundesbank hesitated before lowering Bank rate and has adhered to its restrictive course — and why Karl Schiller is grateful for Karl Klasen's support.

The concern in Bonn and Frankf[…] the same as three, nine or twelve m[…] ago — if the inflationary wage spiral i[…] checked, the government will not b[…] to carry out its promise to stabilis[…] situation.

Expressed in figures, productivi[…] creased 3.5 per cent in 1970 while […] rose by about fourteen per cent. […] increases this year have not been so […] ranging at around ten per cent, b[…] increase in productivity is also less.

In other words, producers will h[…] raise their prices in the next few m[…] if they are to be in a position to f[…] necessary investments. But the […] wage increases must sink considerabl[…]

Stability will be achieved in 1971 […] if Schiller, the Chancellor and the […] tion manage to win over the trades u[…] to such a policy. Otherwise, the r[…] tive policies will have to continu[…] long time or be made even more […]

Then the fears of Professor K[…] chairman of the economic experts […] mission, would become reality. […] result of the "distribution battle" […] tween management and unions […] would be stagflation in 1972.

This stagflation would probabl[…] worse than the one that had been […] for this year. Economic growth wo[…] paralysed and prices would conti[…] increase. And we can no longer […] much more inflation.

On the political side, Schiller an[…] whole of the coalition have aga[…] again promised price stability. O[…] economic side, the competitiveness […] industry in the international m[…] would be threatened. Our export p[…] are already 13.5 per cent higher […] than before the revaluation of the […] in October 1969.

What is going to happen now? Pr[…] ably everybody will subscribe t[…] words of Professor Claus Köhler, a […] member of the expert committee, tha[…] forecasts are uncertain at present.

Only one forecast seems to be cer[…] this April — 1971 will be a yea[…] uncertainty. And that does not […] apply to the economy.

Diether Sti[…]

(DIE ZEIT, 9 April […])

Cost inflation a threat to full employment

Cost and price inflation has become more and more an international phenomenon . . . This gives rise to the question of whether defects in the international currency system have contributed to this general spread of inflationary tendencies or whether it is chiefly a matter of the worldwide spread of new trends in social development weakening the effectivity of traditional instruments for controlling wages and prices."

This passage in the Bundesbank's annual report outlines the main worry of credit and currency policy last year and suggests the problems that will arise in future developments.

Discussing the present domestic situation, the report states as an introduction that "the economic situation at the end of March 1971 shows clear symptoms of a cost inflation that threatens not only the value of money but could also, if it lasts, endanger full employment."

Producers obviously hoped that the rise in costs would gradually level off but with prices continuing to rise so that their profit margin would at least not shrink further.

If this hope proves justified, it is improbable that investment will continue to sink. A continuation of cost inflation could lead to prices being increased without demand keeping pace. "Sales would thus stagnate and there would be a rise in unemployment," the report concludes.

The rise in costs should be checked by economic policy. Wage increases awarded in recent weeks still lie above the rate recommended by the government.

And this rate, the report adds, did not aim at completely stabilising prices but was intended only to reduce the rate of price increases. As economic fluctuation had increased in recent years, a boom in future would have to be checked earlier and more effectively.

Speaking of the conflict between domestic requirements and events abroad, the Bundesbank stated that a deliberalisation of the movement of capital could not be taken into consideration as a solution as the Federal Republic was the only country to have kept the movement of capital free of all restrictions and felt that a particular responsibilty was incumbent on it in this respect. The system of fixed rates of exchange on the other hand was "a fact", the report added.

There had also been no consideration of making currency decisions in the Federal Republic conform to United States policy, whose domestic problems are diametrically opposed to those here.

The Bundesbank believes that a relaxation of credit restrictions based purely on considerations of foreign trade would have affected monetary values more than a partial loosening of restrictions in the form of foreign credit loans that was unavoidable under the given circumstances.

The greatest unsolved problem in the international balance of payments is, the Bundesbank states, the imbalance of the American balance of payments a[…] source of new inflationary trends in […] rest of the world.

The American currency authorities […] in the end have to consider the far-rea[…] ing international repercussions of th[…] policy as well as their own econom[…] requirements.

A real relaxation of credit policy i[…] Europe cannot be expected until th[…] economy picks up in the United Sta[…] ending the low interest rates there […] allowing European economies cor[…] ponding cuts in interest.

International discussions on loosen[…] the system fixing rates of exchange […] not making much progress, the rep[…] states. Not even the six Common Ma[…] countries have a uniform policy.

If developments concerning w[…] prices and balances of payments o[…] again differ widely, tension betwee[…] member countries would be inevi[…] despite plans within the Common Ma[…] to reduce the extent to which the rat[…] exchange can vary. Under certain circ[…] stances the only solution could b[…] change in parity.

The Bundesbank believes that redu[…] the extent by which rates of exchange […] vary could under certain circumsta[…] enable Common Market countries […] adopt a common policy of relaxing […] of exchange with the outside world.

But even a well-integrated Com[…] Market currency bloc would hardly […] able to do without the dollar as a re[…] currency for its dealings with the outsi[…] world.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 8 April 19[…])

LABOUR AFFAIRS

Trade unionist calls for cooperative system

Walter Hesselbach, the Chairman of the Board of the Bank für Gemeinwirtschaft (Cooperative Bank), one of the most successful concerns owned by the trades unions, states in his book what aims trades unions pursue in running their firms.

Hesselbach considers union-run enterprises to be an autonomous instrument in the trades unions' policy concerning competition and organisation.

They are, he says, pioneers of new, socially desirable aims. Union-run concerns should provide more competiton and freedom for the consumer in a sphere free from State influence.

Hesselbach forecasts a gloomy future for private enterprise, basing his prophecy on Marx, Schumpeter and Galbraith: "Today it is possible to develop an industrial system without causing the rise of a bourgeoisie based on accidents of market and inheritance."

Cooperative enterprises will gradually replace private firms. Altruistic and humane aims will increasingly replace the incentive of profit.

The views put forward by Hesselbach might not concur with those of the Trade Union Confederation (DGB) on all points. But importance must be attached to this statement by an influential trade unionist.

The government and Bundestag will not look on indifferently when a person calls in the name of a more and more misunderstood democratisation for an economic field of action for trades unions that is *completely free* of parliamentary responsibility and parliamentary influence.

Hesselbach believes that cooperative enterprises should independently determine and pursue new social aims, especially where competition cannot adequately fulfil its controlling function.

As the influence of the cooperative enterprises increased on the individual markets so would the field for the trades unions' economic policy as the opportunity for monopolistic behaviour increased and the pressure of competition decreased.

Hesselbach's economic views offend the basic principles of a free parliamentary democracy. What law will forbid non-trade union concerns the powers that Hesselbach demands for the enterprises he represents?

Are only those pursuing the "right" social aims to have a right to be autonomous and function without control in a sphere free of State influence?

Who is to prevent the confusion of mutually exclusive or incompatible aims? Even if aims are compatible, who is to provide uniform interpretation and priority of aims?

What is to prevent the confusion of the extent of economic measures to prevent demarcation disputes between various "autonomous" powers, excessive amplification of desired effects and failures due to the unintentional compensation of effects?

Autonomous economic policy made by different groups would automatically lead to wide-scale economic confusion which would increase with the strength of the individual firms whose power would not be controlled by competition.

Hesselbach is obviously annoyed by the fact that profits go into private pockets. He recognises that the desire for profit in efficient competition leads to economic freedom, high productivity and good supply but adds that the public interest is only secondary in private enterprise.

Trade union-owned enterprises on the other hand are, he says, devoted primarily to the public interest and the common good. Their social sense is greater. They too make a profit but it is spent on aims compatible with the general public interest.

These statements have a strongly ideological ring about them. Hesselbach counters any objection by adding that it is irrelevant whether the common good is actually achieved and what aims the head of an enterprise pursues on individual issues.

Accordingly, it does not matter what cooperative ventures do on the market or what they do with their profits. The decisive factor is the enterprise's intention.

As cooperative ventures always act in accordance with the common good, Hesselbach claims that they need not be subject to the control of competition.

Economic enterprises have been formed for a purpose. One of the main aims is a good and cheap supply of goods while bearing in mind aspects of social welfare and affluence. In the economy as a whole the decisive factor is that these aims are achieved as well as possible whereby the aims of the individual branches of industry are important only in so far that they do not run contrary to the aims of the economy as a whole.

It is well-known that a consistent policy of competition and laws passed by the State to set out the conditions for industrial activity correspond most closely with the aims of the economy as a whole and of social welfare as well as the aim of liberty as we understand it at present.

Hesselbach does not come to this conclusion. He does not plead for an energetic policy of competition. Basing his views on Marxist models, he describes the trend toward concentration as unremitting and concludes that there should not be a revolutionary change but a slow, almost unnoticed replacement of the private economy by a cooperative system.

The functions of competition that no longer works because of increasing concentration would then be taken over by cooperative enterprises belonging to the trades unions or the public.

Hesselbach's idealistic views about the competitive conduct of cooperative ventures do not fit in with reality. There are a large number of cases of public enterprises abusing their market power to the detriment of their customers or contractors.

This is one of the reasons why the legislature has rejected the establishment of a State-free sphere for individual ventures and subjected all enterprises, private, public or trade union, to the laws opposing a restriction of competition.

Even the "intention of the enterprise" does not guard against abuse of the market. Even where profits are spent at the discretion of the board of cooperative ventures, this would be of little consolation to those adversely affected.

Where would we be heading if positions of economic power were to be exploited arbitrarily by individual concerns who point out that they are using profits for what they claim is a good purpose though nobody is able to exercise any control over this? Can private firms be prevented from doing what cooperative concerns are allowed?

Hesselbach's informative book is an attempt to justify economic autonomy and functions for trade union organs. The government, the Bundestag, private enterprise and the consumer will be interested to see the role they are assigned in Hesselbach's plan.

Professor Walter Hamm

(Frankfurter Allgemeiner Zeitung für Deutschland, 6 April 1971)

Government's economic pundits debate wealth distribution

Professor Norbert Kloten, chairman of the economic experts committee, hit the nail on the head when he said, "We are in the middle of a struggle for the distribution of wealth. That is the real cause of the difficult economic situation."

Prices are rising faster than at any time during the history of the Federal Republic. And no one dares hope that his spiral will soon end. Many people fear on the other hand that efforts to master inflation will sooner or later end with a plunge into the abyss of economic crisis.

Up to now the trade unions have not shown that they are at all prepared to make more modest wage demands in view of this danger. Neither the warnings of Economic Affairs Minister Karl Schiller nor the Bundesbank's threat to continue its restrictive policies until common sense has returned to wages policy have so far caused the trade unions to become more reasonable.

Despite all talk of inflationary wages policy the unions could for more than two years be persuaded to accept sensible solutions. Unlike their colleagues in neighbouring countries they always bore in mind the interests of the economy as a whole, the stability of the Mark and the international competitiveness of this country's industrial products.

The first result of this is that the Federal Republic is still a haven of stability compared with most of the other industrial countries. Labour conflicts and all the unpleasant consequences have been rare. At the same time real wages and the standard of living have risen more quickly than in most comparable countries.

The second result is that the per capita share of wage and salary-earners in the national income has decreased despite an absolute increase in incomes. While the proportion of workers and employees in the total working population rose from 68.5 to almost 82 per cent since 1950, their share of the national income only increased from 58.6 to 65.2 per cent.

On top of this comes the fact that workers and employees scarcely had any part in the growth of productive capital. Seventy per cent of industry is owned by a negligible number of rich and super-rich.

In view of this it is no wonder that the unions are becoming less and less inclined to be the only body to foot the bill in pursuance of stability.

Another reason for this growing disinclination is the fact that union officials fear their members' anger. Workers here have already shown very impressively that they can carry out their own battle for better wages and conditions, like their colleagues in Britain, France or Italy. The fact that the formula of inflationary wages policy has also failed there is another story.

We would not be in the present dilemma if there had been a clear and energetic wealth policy allowing large sections of the working population to share in the growth of affluence. The more workers share in general affluence, the more superfluous become struggles between management and labour for a better distribution of wealth.

The only thing Bonn has come up with up to now is little more than encouragement to save. The staff only have a real share of productive capital in a few progressive firms — and it is always the firms that have taken the initiative.

But what Bertelsmann, Pieroth, Behrens and some other firms have done is no more than a drop in the ocean. As long as Bonn does not pass the legislation necessary to enable all employees to participate in their firm's profits, there is no chance of a satisfactory solution to the battle for the distribution of wealth.

It cannot be decided via wages alone. Strikes and inflation, the result of wage increases lying far above the growth of productivity, benefit nobody and harm all.

It is also high time that a legal framework was set up for firms who wish their staff to have a share of the profits. Today many of these concerns are faced by serious tax and welfare problems if they plan such a scheme. Here is a chance for the legislature to carry out a domestic reform that will not cost the taxpayer money.

Despite continuing talk of domestic reform, the ruling Social Democrats have unfortunately little to offer by way of plans or deeds in the sphere of wealth policy.

The Opposition can at least point to its Burgbacher plan for sharing profits and the recent proposal for a harmonisation of savings encouragement schemes which is well worth discussing. But the Opposition is in no position to carry out its proposals at present.

We shall have to wait and see what remains of their good intentions if the CDU/CSU are once again called upon to govern. The influential Franz Josef Strauss has already said that he does not think much of the new proposals for the distribution of the increased industrial wealth.

For him and others in the party the Burgbacher Plan is certainly no urgent desire but at most a means of embarrassing the Social Democrats.

We are already paying for what was neglected in the past. We shall be receiving an even higher bill during the next few years for what is being neglected today. The battle for the distribution of wealth will certainly assume a much harsher character — to the detriment of all involved.

Michael Jungblut

(DIE ZEIT, 2 April 1971)



■ AVIATION

Short-haul VFW 614 rolls out on schedule

The blue flash on a level with the cabin windows makes the fuselage longer and the mini among commercial jets appear larger than it really is: 65 ft long, seating forty in the standard model, with a range of 400 miles and 18.6 tons take-off weight.

The VFW 614 is a small plane. The jumbo would take ten times its complement.

The first one is ready to roll out of the VFW-Fokker assembly hangar on the outskirts of Bremen airport, a memorable occasion comparable with the launching of a ship.

Ready? Well, not quite. Several dozen mechanics in blue overalls are more or less busy screwing on and off pieces of sheet metal. Components of one kind and another are lying around all over the place.

A matter of days before the premiere the 614 looks like a plucked chicken. There's no avoiding that, the engineers say. By eleven a.m. on 5 April everything will be alright.

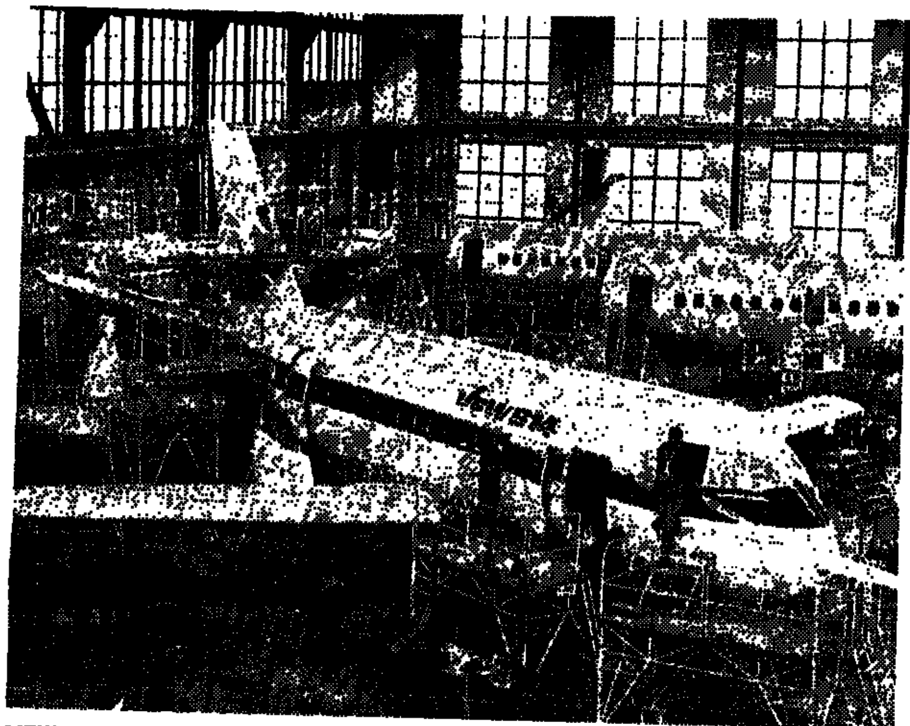
"Only a matter of 500-odd million Marks," Rolf Stüssel, head of the 614 project calmly comments. In reality, of course, he and everyone else concerned with the project is more than a little proud that a manufacturer here has got a commercial aircraft off the ground again for the first time since the Second World War.

They are also, of course, a little astonished that the project has at long last reached completion, some eight years since the first scale-model wooden mock-up, twenty times smaller than the finished article, was exhibited at the Paris aviation salon.

Boeing, the world's largest manufacturer of commercial aircraft, with their headquarters in the far north-west of the United States took only two years to develop a mock-up of a short-haul aircraft twice the size – the Boeing 737 – from a wooden model into the real thing of steel and aluminium.

Boeing, by the way, have now run into difficulties because of a Senate decision against the construction of a supersonic transport plane.

"Development work proper and the construction of the prototype only took us two and a half years," blond 39-year-old Stüssel comments. The remainder, five and a half years, were spent in a political tug-of-war over the decision as to whether the aircraft should be built at all.



VFW mechanics are here seen putting the finishing touches to the first assembly-line 614, this country's first commercial jet airliner (Photo: VFW-FOKKER)

"We are on time," placards proclaim all over the factory with reference to the roll-out of the 614. Are they? In 1965 when the supervisory board of Vereinigte Flugtechnische Werke, headed by Arno Seeger, at that financial director of Krupp's, decided to go ahead with the 614 it was scheduled to be marketed in 1969.

Rolf Stüssel, whose fast talk and accent leave the native listener in little doubt that he hails from Berlin, has staked his career on the future of the country's first commercial jet since 1963.

That was when he joined a team of engineers from the three aircraft manufacturers in the north of the country, Weserflug, Fokke-Wulf and Hamburger Flugzeugbau, who since 1961 had been engaged, under the direction of Martin Schrecker, on the development of a number of aircraft designs for both civilian and military purposes.

Their fourth design, the 61-4, was a jet transport for developing countries, a bush aircraft. It was intended to cost three million Marks and designed for use on grass airstrips in the South American jungle and the deserts of Australia.

Martin Schrecker designed jet engines mounted on the wings with the express aim of forestalling damage resulting from loose scree.

Rolf Stüssel has retained this basic principle even though the aircraft that rolled out of the hangar on 5 April has virtually nothing in common with the design originally conceived nearly ten years ago.

"We don't want to provide vacuum cleaners for the runways," he says in defence of the unusual design.

The bush aircraft without even a pressurised cabin has evolved into an up-to-the-minute commercial aircraft with navigational aids and electronic equipment that compare well with those of a jumbo jet.

At nine million Marks it is three times more expensive than originally planned too and is now primarily intended for the European and American markets.

VFW designers are particularly proud of the fact that the 614 would pay its way on domestic routes in this country even if only 57 per cent of seat capacity were used. Lufthansa's Boeing 737s need to fill 72 per cent of their capacity to be an economic proposition.

The project survived two mergers. In 1964 the two Bremen aircraft manufacturers merged to form VFW and five years later VFW and five years later VFW merged with Fokker of Holland to form the first supranational concern in the European aircraft industry.

The first setback occurred in 1965 when Lycoming, the American manufacturer, abandoned development work on the engine the VFW team had counted on. The US air force was no longer interested in the design.

Anxiety over the jet engines needed to fly the aircraft economically at low altitudes, an absolute necessity for the short-haul routes for which the project was designed, has continued ever since.

In 1965 the Bremen boffins persuaded Bristol Siddeley, the British engine manufacturers, to develop a suitable engine on the basis of a military design and sell it to power the 614 at a flat rate. Snecma of France cooperated on the venture.

It was not until 1967 that the Federal government in Bonn signed the agreement to go halves on the 200-million-Mark development costs of the engine. This amount was included as part of the offset payments agreement towards the foreign exchange costs of stationing the British Army of the Rhine in this country.

Three years later at a stage by which the first shell of the 614 had long since been assembled in Bremen Whitehall again came knocking at Bonn's door demanding a further fifty million Marks because engine development costs had since increased to 300 million Marks.

Bristol Siddeley had meanwhile been taken over by Rolls Royce, who were now responsible for the 614's engine. The two governments seemed to be on the verge of agreement and the first engine was on its way from England to Bremen when the story of Rolls Royce going bankrupt broke.

Once again Bremen had every reason to worry about the prospects of ever receiving delivery of the engines required.

In the meantime the second jet ... for the first finished aircraft has ... delivered and the official receiver in charge of Rolls Royce's business has ... an assurance that a further th... engines will be delivered.

Over and above this the German ... facturers can only hope that the ... government will maintain production ... Rolls Royce, now nationalised, and ... the engines rolling off the assembly ... provided that Bonn chips in.

In the course of time Rolf Stüssel ... developed what might be called fa... optimism about the future of the p... as its prospects have wavered.

There was, for one, the search ... partners to share the risk since ... could not even underwrite half the ... without jeopardising its finances.

After much chopping and chang... partners in the project are now ... VFW's Dutch other half, Sabca ... Fairey of Belgium and Siebel, a ... subsidiary of Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm.

Two British firms cried off and ... years spent hoping that either Doug... North American Aviation of the U... States might participate in the p... proved to have been wasted time.

When Bremen enquired among ... can manufacturers whether they mi... interested in joining forces on the ... a story similar to that of the Volk... emerged.

Because of high wages and prod... costs in the United States the de... ment and manufacture of small air... too costly a business there. This, i... final analysis, was the reason why ... can manufactuers cried off.

Then there was the problem of ... finances. It was not until mid-196... the Federal government declared ... be deserving of financial suppor... announced itself willing to foot si... cent of VFW's development bill. ... thing in the garden seemed lovely.

Two years later, though, at the end ... April 1968 just before the Hanover ... show, Essen clamped down. ... Vogelsang had taken over a badly-... Krupp's, the main shareholder in VF...

He felt that the 614 was too much ... risk. After an initial vague estima... research and development costs ... ing to somewhere in the region of ... million Marks a more realistic est... had put the cost at 120 million and ... continuing to increase.

It took three months of tough barg... ing in Bonn before the government agre... to foot eighty per cent of the develo... ment bill in the form of a subsidy th... would be repayable in certain circum... stances.

Vogelsang gave the final go-ahead ... Work on the construction, producti... and test-flying of three protoypes ... two partial mock-ups could then be... According to the latest estimates ... venture will cost 290 million Marks – ... this figure does not include work on ... engines.

Sales of 175 aircraft are expected ... cover the costs. If production goes ... as at present planned, with two ... rolling off the assembly line per mon... will be seven years before the 614 ... paid for itself.

By the early eighties the Federal ... ernment may well be repaid in full ... the project start to run at a profit ... soon as the project has broken even ... too starts to make a profit on ... further 614 sold.

Market surveys so far conducted ... VFW representatives feel fairly op... tic. World requirements of short-hau... in the VFW 614's category are esti... at between 1,200 and 1,500 units.

VFW have not lost their head and ... hoped perhaps to corner 25 or thirty ... cent of the market. Sales would ... amount to 400 units. To reach this fi... VFW need to sell another 374 aircraft.

Heinz Michel...

(DIE ZEIT, 2 April 19...)

MOTORING

A million electric cars on the roads by 1980

Hannoversche Allgemeine

... the early eighties a million or so electric-powered motor vehicles could ... the roads of this country, the board ... Rheinisch-Westfälisches Elektrizitäts- ... (RWE) reckon.

...nveiling prototype commercial ...cles at Kettwig at the end of March ... noted that a good ten per cent of ... fourteen million motor vehicles at ...ent on the roads could well use ...ust-free and virtually noiseless elec... power, particularly in local traffic in ...-up areas.

... ten years' time an electric private car ... the technical hitches ironed out can ... be expected not only to be on the ...ds but also to cost little more to buy ...un than conventionally-powered cars.

RWE, who are mainly interested in ...pplying the power for their joint ...evelopment venture with a battery ...nufacturer, estimate power require...nts as follows:

Assuming that electric vehicles, be they buses, delivery vans or private cars, weigh an average three tons and taking into account the likely storage and transformation losses power consumption will amount to a fifth of a kilowatt-hour per kilometre per ton.

Further assuming that the average distance travelled per vehicle per annum is 15,000 kilometres each vehicles will use 9,000 kilowatt-hours of power a year and a million will create an additional demand for 9,000 million kilowatt-hours per annum.

Since it can be assumed that the power production of electricity boards in this country will at least double from 200,000 million kilowatt-hours in 1970 to 400,000 million kilowatt-hours in 1980 it should not be difficult to supply the power needed to propel one or even two million motor vehicles.

As storage batteries will be recharged at non-peak periods such as overnight the installed power capacity for general requirements ought easily to meet requirements.

The bus unveiled in Kettwig has been in use on normal routes in Koblenz since the beginning of February. According to RWE it has a range of fifty to sixty kilometres and a top speed of roughly eighty kilometres an hour (fifty mph).



This commercial vehicle chassis forms part of many electric-powered motor vehicle projects under development. Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm, the manufacturers of this prototype, are one of the country's leading aerospace consortia. (Photo: dpa)

The lightweight delivery van, limited for the time being to a payload of one ton, has a synthetic body, a range of 105 kilometres (65 miles) and, like the bus, a maximum speed of roughly eighty kilometres an hour.

On test runs with members of the Press on board the top speeds at least were borne out.

RWE board spokesman Dr Meysenburg pointed out that many problems remain to be solved over the next few years before the electric car will be in a position to replace the combustion-engined family saloon and so play its part in safeguarding the environment from car exhaust and noise in built-up areas.

The most pressing problem, he commented, was that of recharging batteries (the present lead batteries weigh four tons). RWE are of the opinion that replacement batteries rechargeable within a couple of hours hold forth most promise at present.

The project is in full swing and has made considerable progress in other countries too – America, Britain and Japan, for instance.

In this country, Dr Meysenburg claimed, virtually every commercial vehicle manufacturer is thinking in terms of replacing conventional propulsion by electric power at some stage or other.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 7 April 1971)

Vehicle inspection

Over the last two years the TÜV, an independent agency responsible for conducting compulsory two-year tests on motor vehicles in this country, has opened forty new test centres with a total of ...2 inspection bays. The public are reminded that long waiting-lists remain inevitable before public and school holidays.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 31 March 1971)

ENVIRONMENT

Bonn must be more specific about protection costs

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

"Sewerage," said Johannes Popitz, Finance Minister in the early twenties, "is an expensive business." In those days communal hygiene and the sewage system was a relatively new development.

Dr Oscar Schneider, Bundestag member for Nuremberg, recalled this axiom in the Bundestag's first full-scale debate on environmental protection at the end of last year.

A member of several committees of the Association of Federal Republic Town Councils and a man well acquainted with the subject, Dr Schneider pointed out that if sewerage was an expensive business comprehensive, up-to-date environmental protection capable of development would be a good deal more expensive.

He hit the nail on the head. Splendid though environmental protection plans may be, they cost money, a great deal of money too.

Planners bandy about astronomical sums and the tax-payer is left with the uneasy feeling that sooner or later he will be called upon to foot the bill. He is, of course, not mistaken.

Chancellor Brandt only recently told the Bundestag that domestic reforms of which environmental protection forms a part will have to be paid for by everyone.

The Chancellor also cast hopes and fears in a clear light, though. Progress can only be achieved step by step and this applies equally to environmental protection.

There can be no doubt that the danger Man faces from an environment he is increasingly throwing out of balance as civilisation progresses is considerable.

In the past much that could have been done to contain atmospheric and water pollution and combat noise has been left undone, but there is no cause for hysterics on the subject of the environment.

In recent months the general public has repeatedly been confronted with the problem. They have learnt what lies in store if we continue to turn a blind eye to environmental protection.

A great deal, though by no means all, has been gained if everyone is now aware of the problem. Shock therapy is often most effective. What now matters is to ensure that the realisations reached are not consigned to oblivion and to do one's utmost to ensure that grim visions of the future do not become reality.

We must, as Professor Hempel of Kiel University puts it, progress from a position midway between panic and sleep on the subject of environmental problems.

The Federal government has commissioned a comprehensive environmental protection programme that was originally to have been published in draft form this April.

Now that Minister of the Interior Hans-Dietrich Genscher has postponed the Cabinet committee meeting on the subject scheduled for March this deadline has gone by the board.

The draft is now to be submitted in the foreseeable future. Environmental protection specialists have, for the time being, come to grief on the cost, as was to be expected.

They were thinking in terms of total expenditure of at least 100,000 million Marks over the next decade but their estimates for individual items were extremely scanty and they were even less capable of reaching agreement on how to finance the programme.

Even so, their work remains worthwhile because they have drawn up a catalogue in detail that has yet to be equalled. Their proposals for countering atmospheric pollution and the pollution of rivers and lakes, for mastering mountains of garbage and taking effective action on noise abatement are also useful.

Any environmental programme, no matter what shape it eventually takes, can only be a framework. Laws must be passed and regulations issued to put its provisions into effect. The ball is in the legislators' court after years of what has at times amounted to criminal neglect.



Major industrial plant such as this complex produces not only picturesque smo[ke which] can be seen by all but also effluent that is channelled unnoticed into nearby wa[ters] and poisons Nature's water resources. (Photo: J. H. D[...])

Above all the central government must be equipped with the powers it needs to take the necessary action. Effective nation-wide legislation is a must if binding international agreements are to be reached.

The currents of air and water that convey harmful substances, dirt and garbage are no respecters of frontiers. The Federal government must be granted full responsibility for coping with atmospheric pollution, garbage collection and water resources and both houses of Parliament seem inclined to grant Brandt the necessary powers.

The states clash with the Federal government in wanting to retain responsibility for nature conservancy and regional amenities but surely a compromise could be reached, particularly as first-rate work has been carried out in these sectors in a number of states.

There is little point in jeopardising the constitutional amendment needed to transfer environmental protection powers to the Federal government merely because agreement cannot be reached on nature conservancy.

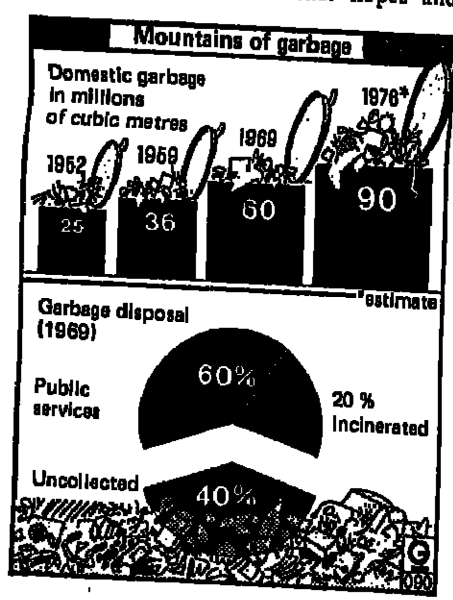
At all events the Federal government must make it clear on what points it intends to take action so that the states have some idea what they are letting themselves in for. They, after all, will have to implement the legislation passed by the Bundestag in Bonn.

Planners and legislators must be more specific and private individuals can already prove that the clarion calls have not been in vain.

Once people realise that the environment they need to protect starts on their own doorstep it will be a sign that people have realised the need for what is bound to be expensive legislation.

Hans Jörg Sottorf

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 5 April 1971)



Thirteen million Marks a year on R & D

More money is urgently needed for environmental research, according to the Federal Republic Research Association (DFG). In a study recently published in Bonn the association states its intention of continuing to support environmental research to the best of its ability.

Over the last twenty years the DFG has invested more than 120 million Marks in environmental projects. The current allocation is roughly thirteen million Marks a year.

Science and technology alone cannot solve present and future environmental protection problems, the association feels.

"In many cases," the report comments, "Man's understanding of himself and acclimatisation to existing structures is a greater obstacle to the prevention and cure of environmental damage than the technological snags."

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 25 March 1971)

Atmospheric pollution Bill planned

The Environmental Protection Bill currently being drafted in a number of government departments provides for the construction of a network of pollution measuring stations in conurbations.

With the aid of these stations the offenders and extent of atmospheric pollution are to be recorded in detail so as to enable specific action to be taken.

Home Secretary Hans-Dietrich Genscher's reply to a parliamentary question on the subject also reveals that a network of measuring stations is at present under construction in the Lower Main area.

It is intended to provide detailed information on industrial, domestic and traffic pollution. The state of North Rhine-Westphalia commissioned a car exhaust survey for the Cologne area as long ago as 1969.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 6 April 1971)

Water polluti[on] warrants stiff[er] penalties

Süddeutsche Zeitun[g]

Bonn proposes in a fourth s[...] amendments to the Water Reso[urces] Act to make the pollution of lake[s and] rivers a criminal offence.

Deliberate pollution of rivers, la[kes and] the water table already rende[rs the] offender liable to fines of up to [...] Marks and minor offences up to [...] Marks. But they have next to neve[r been] imposed.

Poisoning spring water has been [a] serious crime since time immemori[al] for just as long Man has con[signed] awkward or poisonous garbage to [the] waterways as a matter of course.

Dumping garbage in the nearest [...] has become virtually an instinct and [in] the past the after-effects have been nor too serious. The waterways had [no] trouble in dealing with what littl[e the] non-affluent society wanted to dis[pose] of.

The present-day upshot of this [...] instinct is that imperishable garbag[e is] channelled into village streams much [as it] always has without the slightest re[gard] for common sense.

In the case of untreated indu[strial] effluent money-saving is the main [con]sideration. What can happen was se[en in] the case of shipowner Bernhold w[hose] profit motive clashed with the intere[sts of] the general public that had to purify [its] polluted water before drinking it.

Bernhold was stiffly penalised but [a] number of major and minor offender[s are] either not prosecuted at all or given [...] small fines because both the court[s and] the general public consider environ[mental] pollution — theft of common prop[erty] — to be an excusable offence.

If only the present legal provisions [were] rigorously implemented they would [be] most effective but since a new Act al[so] gains a certain amount of attentio[n it] may well bring home to a fair numbe[r of] people the message that water pollutio[n is] no longer to be excused.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 25 March 19[71])

OUR WORLD

Over-21s prefer waltz to beat

[T]he thousand or so dancing instructors [...] in this country, who between them [tea]ch 800,000-odd people a year to [dan]ce, recently held their 1971 con[fere]nce in Mainz, starting the week with [de]bates on social policy and ending with [a] World Cup of professional dancing.

[In]structors, who consider themselves [un]der obligation to teach not social [dan]cing but dancing in society, have of [late] gained recognition by prominent [pol]iticians on the strength their work.

[P]resident Heinemann agreed to comply [wi]th the urgent requests of the dancing [ins]tructors association and present the [W]orld professional dancing champions, [M]echthild and Rudolf Trautz, with the [S]ilver Laurel.

Federal Interior Minister Hans-Dietrich [G]enscher noted in a message to the [c]onference that "dancing schools today have nothing in common with the pomp and circumstance of their predecessors of days gone by."

Herr Genscher feels that dancing schools are places where young people can meet one another and ballroom dancing itself not a ceremonial social occasion but "closely related to sport."

Horst Ehmke, Minister at the Chancellor's Office, figures in the latest issue of a dancing magazine as the model of a creative dancer. In raising both index fingers he is reckoned at least in the gesture of the hand to have anticipated the Chou Chou Kee, the latest in fashionable dances, as long ago as last summer.

Pictured in collar and tie dancing with a partner with midriff bare, Dr Ehmke is taken as an example to prompt the query "When will the men in Bonn adopt the leisure wear styles worn by the women?"

Mainz was not slow to suggest to the less imaginative dancers what the with-it ballroom dancer wears these days. Take this up-to-the-minute men's suit:

"It conforms with the requirements of a garment suitable for dancing insofar as the back, cummerbund and knee are fully elastic. The back is lined with a net fabric and the suit has armpit pads."

The gent in this latest garb can disport himself on festive occasions with an easy conscience should his female partner be wearing, say, a loosely-fitting dress with flowing parts in an unconventional design.

Dance instructors must not only keep up to date on the latest in ballroom fashions; they must also be up to the minute on matters of professional training.

Arthur Bratu, director of Hesse state political education centre, recommended them to think in terms not only of teaching schoolchildren and apprentices to dance but also to provide older people with an opportunity of stretching their legs by way of movement therapy. Sick people, he felt, could be given dancing classes as part of their treatment.

In order to go about the job in a professional manner Herr Bratu recommended training dancing instructors at trades colleges. Pupils are no longer being offered enough if all they are taught is to respond to changes in rhythm.

In future dancing instructors ought to have some understanding of the psychology of young people, sociology, educating groups of people and the fundamentals of anatomy.

Instructors have commissioned a survey on what young people between the ages of sixteen and 24 feel about them. Single people without a steady partner, the survey reveals, dance less than couples who are going out together.

Sixteen- to twenty-year-olds may prefer beat to classical ballroom dances but young people over the age of 21 have a preference for the waltz.

A mere seventeen per cent of young people are particularly enthusiastic about beat and a further eighteen per cent reckon it is not bad. Except for the four per cent who feel it is nonsense the remainder have reservations of one kind or another.

Dieter Lau

(DIE WELT, 6 April 1971)

Novel playground

Thirty Berlin schoolchildren have awarded the latest playground novelty, a network of hawsers suspended from an aluminium framework, top marks as a spur to the imagination. The variety of games they can play as they clamber in and around, up, over and through this spider's web of hawsers is virtually unlimited.

(Photo: Moldvay/stern)

Success breeds divorce

An alarmingly growing number of people whose problems are due to their professional progress have of late taken to consulting psychologists.

An increasing number of housewives are seeking marriage guidance because their husbands have left them after years of wedlock after achieving professional success.

The position they are in is characterised by specialists as that of the marriage crisis brought on by affluence.

Zürich psychotherapist Dr Andreas Hedri outlines the characteristic features of this newcomer among causes of broken marriages as follows:

The marriage is a success as long as the couple's financial situation remains below par. Suddenly the husband makes a professional breakthrough. Suddenly his wife is no longer good enough for him. He desserts her for a popsy and the wife lands up on the psychologist's couch.

The help that can be given them, Dr Hedri concludes sadly, is almost bound to remain less than is might be.

"Only extremely occasionally can the reasons for the break be resolved. In the crisis of affluence the husbands refuse to realise what has happened and at best (and by no means always) try to make amends by means of financial generosity.

"Often enough not even this is the case. They leave the financial side to adept solicitors who then try to legalise, as it were, what are in reality moral shortcomings."

No matter how great the initial temptation to lay the blame firmly at the husbands' door may be the wives are to blame too. Hamburg psychologist Attila Szabo puts it like this:

"Most of these wives make the mistake of neglecting their husbands' jobs. They can no longer follow what is going on when their husbands achieve professional success and have increasingly complicated problems to solve.

"A secretary has a better idea of how to respond to the problems he encounters because she comes across them herself every day of the working week. She often knows more about the husband's worries than the wife does."

An additional factor, psychologists point out, is the drive and will to succeed that characterise men who make a success of their careers. To begin with they devote their energies to getting on in their chosen profession but once they reach a certain saturation point they put their energy and drive to other uses.

At times it is merely a matter of an unexpected urge to engage in sporting activities. The career man suddenly starts playing golf or yachting.

As a rule, though, he thinks in terms of fresh fields and pastures new in the world of sexual conquest — and the air of success he exudes attracts young women to no small extent.

Psychological tests have also revealed that the will to get on in business is fundamentally due to sexual motives. At bottom all men who want to get on in life have a desire to be a success with women.

Wives ought to think about their husbands' professional problems and be able to give him practical advice and encouragement. *Ladislaus Kuthy/PAM*

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 3 April 1971)

Homburg housewife earns by the hour for just listening

One of the oddest occupations in the country is that practised for the past five weeks by housewife and amateur psychologist Eva Lang, 55, of Bad Homburg.

For twenty Marks an hour she listens to other people's problems. Her newspaper advertisements offer something "few people are capable of doing nowdays: I listen to you."

Anyone who has family problems or trouble at work can go to Eva Lang and talk to her about them. Only when specially requested does she not only listen but also give patient and practical advice based on a lifetime's experience.

People who feel an hour is too expensive or can unload their trouble verbally in less time can pay by the half-hour.

Eva Lang's explanation why she hit on this idea is straightforward enough. "I was fed up with being a mere housewife," she says. "The Church's telephone advice service in a number of towns is overwhelmed by callers. That is what decided me to help people who feel lonely."

Many people may have smiled at the idea but Eva Lang is already pushed for time. Any number of people between the ages of two and sixty have booked time and letters and phone calls have reached her from all over the country.

Taking stock after her first three weeks in business Eva Lang reckons that the problems her clients air are as varied as life itself. But loneliness is something they all have in common.

"They just have no one to talk to, neither family or workmates who are prepared to listen to their problems for even a matter of minutes. What they are looking for is someone who does not know everything better before they have even opened their mouths but is prepared just to sit and listen."

Most of her clients are between thirty and forty, which only goes to show that old age pensioners are not alone in being lonely. Young people under twenty have hardly put in an appearance and the few instances there have been have been apprentices and working youngsters rather than students or schoolchildren.

"Most people find it important to be able to escape from the cauldron of their thoughts. I am the person to whom they can let off steam without engaging in discussion." *Albert Bechtold*

(Münchner Merkur, 5 April 1971)

Aden	SA $ 0.05
Afghanistan	Af 10.—
Algeria	DA 0.60
Angola	Esc. 1.—
Argentina	$ m n 45.—
Australia	10 c.
Austria	S 3.—
Belgium	bfr 6.—
Bolivia	$ b 1.50
Brazil	N. Cr. $ 0.35
Bulgaria	Lev 0.05
Burma	K 0.60
Burundi	F. Bu. 10.—
Cambodia	R 4.40
Cameroun	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Canada	Can. $ —.20
Ceylon	cR —.60
Chile	Esc. 0.60
Colombia	col. $ 1.—
Congo (Brazzaville)	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Congo (Kinshasa)	Makuta 7.—
Costa Rica	C 0.85
Cuba	P 0.13
Cyprus	11 d
Czechoslovakia	Kcs 0.50
Dahomey	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Denmark	dkr 0.90
Dom. Rep.	RD $ 0.15
Ecuador	S 2.50
El Salvador	C 0.30
Ethiopia	Eth. $ 0.30
Fiji	11 d
Finland	fmk 0.50
Formosa	NT £ 5.—
France	FF 0.60
Gabon	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Gambia	11 d
Germany	DM 1.—
Ghana	cedi 0.12
Great Britain	11 d
Greece	Dr 4.—
Guatemala	Q 0.15
Guayana	BWI $ 0.20
Guinea	F.G. 30.—
Haiti	G 0.65
Honduras (Br.)	$ BH 0.20
Honduras	L 0.25
Hong Kong	HK $ 0.70
Hungary	Ft 1.—
Iceland	Kr 5.—
India	Rs 0.80
Indonesia	Rp. 15.—
Iran	RI 10.—
Iraq	50 fils
Ireland	11 d
Israel	I £ 0.40
Italy	Lir. 80
Ivory Coast	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Jamaica	11 d
Japan	Yen 50
Jordan	50 fils
Kenya	EAs 0.25
Kuwait	50 fils
Laos	Kip 60.—
Lebanon	P 40.—
Liberia	Lib $ 0.15
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Madagascar	FM 30.—
Malawi	11 d
Malaysia	M. $ 0.40
Mali	FM 60.—
Mexico	$ 1.50
Morocco	DM —.65
Mozambique	Esc. 1.—
Nepal	Mohur 1.—
Netherlands	Hfl 0.50
Netherlands Antilles	G. ant 0.25
New Zealand	9 c.
Nicaragua	C 0.65
Niger	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Nigeria	11 d
Norway	nkr 0.90
Pakistan	Rs 0.60
Panama	B. 0.15
Paraguay	G. 15.—
Peru	S. 3.50
Philippines	P. phil 0.60
Poland	Zl. 0.50
Portugal	Esc. 1.—
Rhodesia	11 d
Ruanda	F. Rw 12.—
Rumania	Leu 0.50
Saudi Arabia	RL 0.60
Sweden	skr 0.60
Switzerland	FS 0.50
Senegal	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Sierra Leone	Le 0.10
Somalia	Sh So 0.90
South Africa	Rand 0.10
South Korea	Won 35.—
S. Viet Nam	V.N. $ 15.—
Spain	Pts 8.—
Sudan	PT 5.—
Syria	£ S 0.50
Tanzania	EAs 0.25
Thailand	B 3.—
Trinidad and Tobago	BWI $ 0.20
Togo	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Turkey	T £ 1.25
Tunisia	65 M
Uganda	EAs 0.25
UAR	PT 5.—
Uruguay	P 20.—
USA	$ 0.20
USSR	Rbl. 0.10
Venezuela	B 0.60
Yugoslavia	Din. 1.—
Zambia	11 d

